



## Oswestry

Delight as revamped visitor centre opens

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## Welshpool

Walkers stride out despite poor weather

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## Property

The latest homes for sale in the area

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## Fears over alteration idea to car park rules

OSWESTRY Town Council fears that a government overhaul of car parking legislation could leave it without funds to help attract people to the town.

Councillors met last night (Wednesday) to discuss consultation on local authority parking strategies.

The Government says it wants to ensure that charges complement and enhance the attractiveness of high streets and town centres.

Oswestry Town Council runs three car parks: Central and Smithfield and the Horsemarket. Income from parking fees is used to subsidise many of Oswestry's visitor events and brighten up the town.

Town mayor Councillor Chris Schofield said: "The town council fully supports town centre revitalisation. However the council would be concerned if it was not allowed to use the car parking income to help attract people into the centre."

He said funds from parking fees were used, among other things, to help run special events at the town's market, for floral planters through the summer and the Christmas lights, the visitor and exhibition centre to host other events.

The total income for Central Car Park alone from April to December 2013 was £326,900, up 3.3 per cent.

## Delight at top report

HEALTH sector regulators have given glowing reports to Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

Monitor, the sector regulator for health services in England and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) have both given the hospital high scores following recent inspections.

The hospital met CQC standards for care and treatment, welfare and safeguarding of people from abuse and for staffing.

Monitor identified "no issues of concern" - to the delight of hospital chief executive Wendy Farrington.

# JOBS CRISIS HITS RESPONSE TIMES

**THE Wales Ambulance Service Trust (WAST) is facing up to a staffing crisis in North Powys with 15 vacancies reported.**

With the service failing to hit response targets across Powys between April and December the staff shortages were revealed in a performance report to the Montgomeryshire Community Health Council, yesterday (Wednesday).

Heather Ransom, WAST interim head for Powys, reported the high level of vacancies in North Powys were contributing to the service failing to achieve responses inside the eight minute target. Only 58.8 per cent of calls were attended within eight minutes against a target of 65 per cent.

North Powys in particular is suffering from a shortage of paramedics and other ambulance staff, with volunteer first responders having to step in to fill the gap caused by the

by Graham Breeze

## 'Blue light' service goes from town

RAPID response vehicles have been removed from Oswestry and three other Shropshire towns as part of changes that will see ambulances returning, it has been revealed.

The blue-light cars which have been permanently stationed in the town, Bridgnorth, Craven Arms and Market Drayton have been taken out of operation as part of plans to bring back ambulances to the four towns.

West Midlands Ambulance Service has said it is trying to secure funding to run both the rapid response vehicles and ambulances - but cannot afford to at the moment.

The vehicles were staffed by advanced paramedics who attended local incidents before ambulances could arrive and transported patients to hospital where required. Those paramedics will now be assigned to the new ambulances.

Oswestry has been without an operational ambulance since 2012, when the ambulance service stationed all ambulances at two hubs in Shrewsbury and Telford as part of its controversial Make Ready scheme.

But the ambulances are now returning, following an increase in emergency calls.

This week's adult social care scrutiny committee was told it was hoped funding could be found to run both services.

15 vacancies the report claims.

The Health Council heard that although calls to the ambulance service have risen by almost a third, there is a problem with the high number of staff vacancies.

Heather Ransom said: "The smaller stations are all currently experiencing high vacancies."

"The impact in Powys is that many of the more rural locations do not provide 24/7 cover and are thereby more reliant on community first responder schemes during unsocial hours."

### Calls

The reports says that total calls to Powys ambulance had risen by 29 per cent - an additional 2,831 incidents in April to December 2013 compared to the same period in 2010. The 999 calls categorised as life threatening have risen by 34 per cent, an increase of an additional 1,232 calls over the same period.

She said the Welsh Ambulance service was currently undertaking a review of operational rotas and positioning of vehicles using a process to predict average peak demand times for emergency and urgent calls and matching crew numbers to activity.

"Until this work is completed, however, there is an acknowledgement that current rotas are out of date and do not reflect current demand patterns," the report says.

The report states to provide 24/7 cover in all the rural stations would require an additional 22 recruits.

## Malcolm is mayor

THE new mayor of Welshpool is to be Councillor Malcolm Douglass.

Councillors at Tuesday night's Welshpool Town Council voted that Councillor Douglass take over from current mayor, Councillor John Meredith after he was unopposed. A vote was then held for the new deputy mayor with the winner being Councillor Steve Kaye.

## Jacko prize for donor



Ben Knowles from the British Ironwork Centre at Aston, near Oswestry, with the jacket up for grabs and a life-size image of superstar Michael Jackson.

A PRICELESS jacket owned and worn by superstar singer-songwriter Michael Jackson will be given to the person supplying the most spoons for an Oswestry company's giant artpiece.

Bosses at the British Ironwork Centre at Aston near Oswestry need 15,000 spoons to help them create a 12 foot sized gorilla statue for colourful entertainer Uri Geller.

And to help them collect the spoons Mr Geller has donated the jacket he was given as a gift by his late friend Mr Jackson.

Spoons have been sent from as far as New York and Amsterdam after an appeal was launched but the demand has grown after initial estimates of 5,000 spoons proved too small.

Mr Geller intends to fly to Oswestry to pick the gorilla up and it will fly back to his

Berkshire mansion in a cage hanging from the helicopter.

Clive Knowles from the firm said: "It has gone absolutely mad and we have had spoons sent from everywhere."

"Everyone seems to want to take part since we announced we were looking for the spoons and we now have over 40 schools involved and promises of thousands of spoons from a lady in Australia and a London taxi driver."

"It will be lovely when Uri comes to our open day in May to unveil the finished work. We hope the incentive of this priceless jacket will attract the 10,000 spoons still needed."

The entertainer, famous for his spoon-bending, commissioned the sculpture to sit in the garden of his luxury mansion which he often opens as part of his charity work.

## Trial date fixed for rail crash accused

TWO men have denied a charge of endangering the safety of train passengers and crew following a crash near Welshpool last summer.

The crash between the passenger train and a tractor and trailer occurred at a farm crossing close to Buttington Hall in Buttington, on July 16.

Tractor driver Ifan Gwyn Evans, 28, of Penryffordd, Llanfyllin, and co-defendant John Elwyn Roberts, 74, of Oldford Rise, Welshpool, appeared at Mold Crown Court last Friday and pleaded not guilty.

Judge Peter Heywood fixed the trial, which is expected to take four days, for June 2 at Mold.

The charge alleges that they endangered the safety of railway users after Evans allegedly drove a tractor and trailer across the line when it is claimed they were not authorised to do so, causing an approaching train to collide with the trailer.

The charge relates to the crash between an Arriva Train Wales and the trailer, on the Birmingham to Aberystwyth service at Buttington.

There were about 90 passengers on board the train at the time who were moved to safety and two were taken to Welshpool hospital following the crash.

The court heard that a site visit by the trial jury was under consideration.

## Pair admit car thefts

TWO men have admitted offences of aggravated vehicle taking in the Oswestry area in which one of the cars was found burnt out.

James Owen-Jones, 21, and Reece Collinson, 18, appeared at Shrewsbury Crown Court on Monday and admitted burglary last April 14 and aggravating vehicle taking.

Owen-Jones, of no fixed address, and Collinson, of Gainsborough Road, Crewe, remanded in custody for sentencing, which will take place on March 2.

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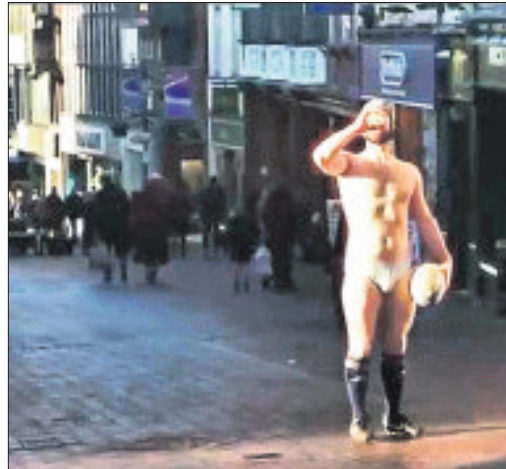
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# Rugby fan Andrew in latest internet craze



Shoppers in Shrewsbury turn a blind eye to Andrew Thomas's antics on Pride Hill.



Neknomination challenge accepted and completed as Andrew downs his pint.

**DRESSED** in nothing but a pair of underpants and a rugby helmet, socks and boots, a Welshpool man has brought a controversial internet craze to the streets.

Carrying a rugby ball and pint of Guinness, Andrew Thomas marches through the streets of Shrewsbury and downs the pint on camera before nominating two friends to top his exploits themselves.

The 34-year-old Welshpool Rugby Club player was filmed carrying out a 'neknomination' - downing a pint in strange circumstances and then turning the tables on friends.

Mr Thomas said he was nominated by a team mate and decided to raise the bar by drinking his pint on Pride Hill in Shrewsbury town centre.

The craze has been criticised by health campaigners and nationally two people are said to have died taking part.

Mr Thomas played down his stunt and said he only consumed one pint of alcohol before going to watch the Wales v Italy Six Nations match on Saturday.

His video appeared on Facebook, YouTube, the

**by Andrew Morris**

Shropshire Star website and on Sky News and has proven to be a massive hit, watched by millions.

Mr Thomas said: "It started circulating among the players at my rugby club in Welshpool last week so I guessed at some point all of the players would get nominated."

"I had to do something a bit different to stand out from the other players."

"Something I noticed a lot in the other videos that people were doing their nominations in private and made it more about necking pints of spirits."

**Inspiration**

"I wanted to make it more about the public embarrassment while trying to keep it clean and innocent. I didn't want to offend or upset anyone, as that would be a poor representation of our rugby club."

Mr Thomas said he also used the Wales/England rivalry as inspiration for his stunt.

He added: "With it being Shrewsbury I knew singing a Welsh rugby song would be good banter but not many people seemed that fussed until I

started singing. In fact they pretty much ignored me and walked past. I think some of the videos are over-the-top on the drinking side."

"Keep it to a pint of beer and some innocent fun so everyone can enjoy it. Keep it safe but maybe not sensible."

In the video, Mr Thomas turns to the camera and says: "People of Shrewsbury, if I could have your attention please. Dai Roberts thank you very much for my neknomination, here it is."

Mr Thomas then drinks the pint in one, before turning back to the camera and saying: "I'd like to nominate Alan Roberts and Dean Pritchard, you have 24 hours, good luck. People of Shrewsbury, enjoy the Six Nations."

He then carries on walking down Pride Hill singing Welsh rugby anthem Hymns and Arias by Max Boyce.

The video finishes with a selection of tourist-style snaps showing Mr Thomas next to The Quantum Leap statue and The Shrewsbury Hotel.

The neknomination craze has swept the UK and Ireland, with thousands of people taking part on social media.

• Watch the Andrew Thomas video - [www.shropshirestar.com](http://www.shropshirestar.com)

## Plans for biomass plant are approved

PLANS for a biomass energy-producing plant at a chipboard factory have been approved.

The proposals put forward by officials at Kronospan, based on Holyhead Road in Chirk, were given the go-ahead by members of Wrexham County Borough Council's planning committee, on Monday.

Company chiefs had submitted revised plans although it had been given permission to build a larger waste-burning plant in 2012 despite local objections.

The chipboard manufacturer said it wanted to use waste material generated in its production process as fuel.

**Imported**

It said it would reduce energy costs and help safeguard 600 jobs.

The factory currently uses gas-fired boilers and gas turbines on site.

A report to the planning committee said approximately 62,000 tonnes of biomass would be used annually and sourced from on-site wood residues.

It would not require further fuel being imported to the site.

The report to the meeting supported the plans, subject to some conditions, saying there were "significant environmental and economic benefits".

It said the company's justification for the plans put forward was that "the biomass plant would help secure the site for its 600 employees and 2,500 people indirectly employed by Kronospan's operations".



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## NEWS

## Challenge goes out to mark saints day

SHOPS and market stalls in Welshpool are being challenged to embrace St David's Day on March 1 and put up decorations to celebrate.

Welshpool Town Council is running a best dressed shop and market stall competition to celebrate the event.

Town clerk Robert Robinson, said: "We're looking forward to St David's Day, when the bunting in the town should be back in place and hopefully the weather will be warmer. It would be lovely to see the town's shops and market stalls dressed with a Welsh theme ready to be judged. If anyone would like to take part in the competition there is no need to fill in an entry form, just by dressing their window, they will automatically be judged."

"The judges will make their way around the town, covering all areas of the main streets and passageways, throughout the day on February 27."

To coincide with the day, the mayor's coffee morning will be on March 1 and the event will be themed. During the morning the mayor, Councillor John Meredith, will present certificates to the winners of the competition afterwards. Proceeds from the coffee morning will be going to the mayor's chosen charities, Welshpool Leg Club and the MS Society.

## Library's work club is to meet

OSWESTRY Library Work Club will meet tomorrow (Friday) from 10.30am to 11.30am. The club offers informal support for people looking for work.

The club is free and meets every other Friday. For more information visit the library in Arthur Street or call (01691) 677388.

## School in special measures for year told to improve

AN Oswestry primary school that has been in special measures for a year is still not making enough progress according to Ofsted inspectors.

Inspectors visited Holy Trinity Church of England Primary School in Middleton Road, Oswestry, in January for their third monitoring visit since the school was placed in special measures in February 2013.

In her report, chief inspector Linda McGill, said: "Having considered all the evidence, I am of the opinion that at this time the school is not making enough progress towards the removal of special measures."

by Pam Kingsley

## Youths urged to get involved in town council

YOUNG people in Welshpool are to be asked to become youth representatives on the town council.

A move to restrict those eligible to members of the youth council of Welshpool High School was defeated amid claims that it would prevent Welsh speakers and those who have left school from taking part.

At a meeting of Welshpool Town Council members voted to have two youth representatives and agreed that they should be aged between 15 and 18 and live within the three-mile boundary of the town set for full adult councillors.

However, there was debate over how the representatives should be found. Councillor Dr John Morgan said that the youth council of Welshpool High School should nominate youth representatives.

He said: "We have good links with the youth council. It is a conduit to reach out to the youth of Welshpool."

But several councillors said that limiting it to the high school would exclude many young people including those who had left full time education and were working or those who now studied at Coleg Powys.

Councillor David Senior said it would also exclude Welsh speakers.

But Councillor John Corfield successfully proposed that the council simply advertise for young people to come forward.

"We are not going to get swamped by the number of people coming forward and I would think that those who do will probably come from the school council at Welshpool High School."

"There is a growing proportion of teaching that is reliably good. But some still requires improvement, which means that pupils do not always make the progress they are capable of in lessons and over time."

However, Ms McGill said some progress has been made and the changes that have been made have been positive ones.

The report says: "Despite the fact that the school is not yet where it should be on its journey towards the removal of special measures, there are encouraging signs of improvement."

"The appointment of the new head teacher, in conjunction with the secondment of two experienced and skilled teachers, adds considerable strength to the leadership team. It has also served to boost morale."

## Changed

"Throughout this inspection, members of staff spoke of a renewed optimism and confidence. It is clear that the climate in school has changed for the better. Appropriate action is being taken to deal with remaining weaknesses, both in leadership and teaching."

Ann Hartley, Shropshire Council's cabinet member for children's services, said she was generally pleased with the report.

"Though the Ofsted inspector has identified room for improvement at Holy Trinity, I'm pleased that she has found that appropriate action is being taken to deal with the remaining weaknesses, both in leadership and teaching," she said.

"I'm especially pleased that she has highlighted the impact made by the new head in such a short period of time, and the importance of the new interim executive board, both of which will play a key role in raising standards at the school."

And Karen Bradshaw, Shropshire Council's director of children's services, said: "I'm pleased that the inspector has praised the fact that Shropshire Council have taken action and set up the interim executive board to govern the school. Ultimately, this is a management issue, and there is no need for parents or pupils to be concerned. It is essentially business as usual and school life will carry on as normal for pupils."

## Revamped centre open again



Carol Bromley prepares for the opening of Oswestry visitor and exhibition centre.

ONE OF the oldest buildings in Oswestry has been given some TLC over the past week – and is now well and truly open for business.

The half-timbered Oswestry Visitor and Exhibition Centre has re-opened to the public a week after it was closed for work on the ancient timbers and other maintenance after woodworm and fungal decay was discovered.

Built in the 15th century it was originally the town's old grammar school and is a Grade II-listed building.

It also houses the tourist information centre, a dog-friendly coffee shop, and exhibition display areas.

Carol Roberts, who runs the cafe, said that exhibitions included those from schools, Oswestry societies, individual artists and craftspeople.

## Council criticises firm over sewage

WELSHPOOL Town Council has criticised Severn Trent for failing to deal with sewage spilling into people's homes in part of the town.

Residents in the Berriew Road area who live in houses sitting on wooden sleepers have seen the contents of foul water sewers seep up through the ground and into their homes.

Despite three episodes in recent years, councillors were told last night that Severn Trent had still not given the council an answer over how the problem will be solved.

Town clerk, Mr Robert Robinson, said the problems affected houses that had been built on sleepers directly on the soil.

"The flooding seeps through those sleepers and into the homes. When it gets warm the smell is apparently a real problem."

Councillor Phillip Pritchard said he had been working with residents to get some answers but as yet they had got nowhere. "I believe there is a broken drain somewhere," he said.

The town clerk said that Severn Trent had suggested that the problems involved private drains.

But Councillor Dr John Morgan said that he believed that Severn Trent was responsible. Councillors agreed to continue to press Severn Trent for answers.

## Cancer group to host its AGM

OSWESTRY Macmillan Cancer Support group will be holding its AGM on February 20 at the Friends Meeting House, Oak Street, Oswestry, at 7pm.

On March 5 the group will be holding a quiz night at The Pedigree, Shrewsbury Road, Oswestry, at 7.30pm for a 7.45pm start.

Entry is £10 per team.

## February Deals



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**NEWS**

# Tributes as ex-town and borough councillor dies

by Pam Kingsley

**TRIBUTES** have been paid to a former mayor of Oswestry who gave 40 years of service to the town.

Owen Jones was also the leading light in the formation of Oswestry's Twinning Association which twinned with Combs la Ville in France.



Owen Jones

He was made a Freeman of Oswestry and in 2013 received a special award from Oswestry Town Council for 40 years in local government.

Today, current Mayor, Councillor Chris Schofield, said Mr Jones had been passionate about the town of Oswestry. Mr Jones, who lived in Oswestry, was town council mayor between 1978-80 and between 1990-91. He was also a past borough council mayor. He stood down from the council in 2003.

Councillor Schofield described Mr Jones as "a man who was passionate about Oswestry and always gave service above self".

He said: "He was passionate about the town and his knowledge, experience and willingness to help those less fortunate will be greatly missed. Owen was the driving force for twinning in Oswestry and was president of the Oswestry Twinning Association."

"Together with Gwen, his wife, Owen was at the heart of the development of the town council from 1974 and previously with the rural borough council."

"Our thoughts are with Gwen and his children, Robert, Deborah and Christine, and the family at this sad time."

## Dancing marks Chinese New Year



Pupils at Moreton Hall celebrate the Chinese New Year with a dragon dance.

IF YOU drop into Moreton Hall School, near Oswestry, don't be surprised to hear children as young as three singing in Mandarin, learning Latin during storytelling time and even ordering their lunch in French.

For the pupils at Moreton First are studying a range of languages in the classroom.

Recently children aged three to 14 enjoyed special workshops to mark Chinese New Year, the highlight of the day learning dragon dancing routines and performing for their friends.

"Our children learn Mandarin from the age of

three at Moreton First, and can carry the subject on through to A Level," Chinese teacher, Raymond Rhodes said.

"Workshops help to bring so much of the Chinese culture to life for the children, which is a vital part of their learning."

Head of Moreton First, Catherine Ford, said: "Chinese is undoubtedly a critical language and culture for today's students to be learning about – as highlighted by David Cameron on his recent trip to China. We still ensure the children learn Latin and French."

## Tractors' road run will aid charities

DOZENS of tractors will set off around the roads and lanes in the Churchstoke area later this month in memory of a farmer who died almost 10 years ago.

The ninth Derek Page Memorial tractor run will be held on February 23, with the tractors of every shape, size and age, expected to gather at Harry Tuffins, Churchstoke.

Proceeds from the 2014 event will be divided between The Neo Natal Trust Fund at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital and Macmillan Cancer Support.

It has been organised by Mr Page's son, Roger, an agricultural engineer from Pentre near Churchstoke.

He said his father, who died nine years ago at the age of 67, had been a well known farmer and agricultural contractor.

"When he died we decided to organise a tractor run in the February, when he would have celebrated his birthday. It has just gone on from there," Mr Page said.

He said that the event usually attracted between 70 and 80 tractors.

"We do a route of about 25 miles, keeping away from the main roads, and end up with a lunch at a hotel. Its very popular."

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## NEWS

01691 668094

# Football fan mourned by Shrewsbury Town 'family'



Michael Pryce Evans.

HE had no close relatives, lived on his own and had one true love – football.

Yet when Michael Pryce Evans, 69, was buried in his home town of Montgomery last Thursday about 200 people packed into the parish church for the service followed by a buffet made and served up by neighbours.

Thanks to Shrewsbury Town Football Club and its supporters, Mr Evans was dressed in a special Shrewsbury Town strip with number 69 and the word "Legend" on



Above and top: Some of the tributes to Michael

by Sue Austin

his back for his final journey. And his coffin was draped in Shrewsbury Town colours, topped by his shield for winning the best supporter award for several years in the 1980s.

For years, Mr Evans, known as Micky in his home town and Monty to football supporters, walked the 40-mile round trip to Shrewsbury to watch his beloved club in action.



The coffin is carried into Montgomery Parish Church for the funeral of Michael Pryce Evans.

And last week supporters travelled from across the country, sporting their blue and yellow scarves, to say thank you. They included Daniel Francis from Burton-on-Trent and Hugh Dennis from Salford.

Former town steward, Ken Davies said: "He was a great guy, a real legend."

Glyn Davies, from Montgomery, had a revelation about his football friend.

"When there was a long away trip he would walk to Shrewsbury on the Friday and sleep in the programme shed," he said.

Mr Evans, a council road worker until he retired through ill health, died on January 3. Doreen Eaton, from Montgomery, said lots of people had helped with the funeral arrangements. She said: "His neighbours and Shrewsbury Town were his family."

Phyllis Naylor, who helped to organise the buffet, said Mr Evans was raised by foster parents, along with Ray Evans, who travelled from Hampshire to attend the funeral.

"The amount of people here and the spread is absolutely incredible," he said.

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# FEATURES AND COMMENT

01691 668094

## BREEZE ABOUT TOWN

IF YOU need an ambulance in a hurry, the Oswestry and border areas are not the best place to be according to the news this week.

Just as news broke that Oswestry got its ambulance back we are told that rapid response vehicles that had been based in the town are no more.

That means it was a trade-off and our celebrations were a little premature. Only time will tell if the area is better off because we only have one ambulance which could be called away at any time.

But the situation across the border in Powys is worse.

It seems with the Wales Ambulance Service reporting 15 vacancies in North Powys and failing to meet its response targets yet again.

In defence of the service in Powys it's difficult to see how they are expected to reach emergency in the eight minute target time when you consider the geography of the area, but there is simply no defence for the service being so short staffed.

I thought we had high levels of unemployment in the area and don't recall seeing vacancies advertised.

But the facts were contained in a report by Heather Ransom, the Wales Ambulance Service Trust's interim head for Powys made to Montgomeryshire Community Health Council this week – so they must be right.

□□□□□□

ON the subject of our health it's hats off this week to the bosses and staff at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital after health sector inspectors applauded them after surprise visits.

Monitor, the sector regulator for health services in England and the Care Quality Commission (CQC) have both given the hospital high scores following recent inspections.

It's a fantastic achievement by the team at Gobowen and a reminder of just how lucky we are to have one of the World's best facilities right here on our doorstep.

□□□□□□

THE new craze of 'Neknomination' – downing a pint in strange circumstances and then turning the tables on friends – took the area by storm this week.

Filming yourself in outrageous situations and then nominating friends to follow suit via social network site Facebook began in Australia and has really taken hold on the Shropshire/Powys border.

The shame is that a fun idea has grown out of proportion to become a challenge of who can push the boundaries the furthest and the result has been two deaths in the UK and Northern Ireland.

Keep it funny, boys and girls, don't let this craze get out of hand.



Status Quo will perform at this year's Llangollen International Eisteddfod.



Bryn Terfel at the Llangollen Eisteddfod.

# Eisteddfod gets into the groove with hip hop moves

**Hip hop will add a new flavour to mix at this year's Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod.**  
**IAIN ST JOHN reports.**

IT IS not exactly Pavarotti or Bryn Terfel – but the world of hip hop is about to be unleashed on this year's Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod.

The summer cultural extravaganza has traditionally been home to the more gentle sounds of folk music, traditional dancing, opera and choral singing.

But this year, in a bid to appeal to a younger audience, organisers are giving the event near the Shropshire border a bit of a shake-up.

A new urban hip hop dance competition will be staged this year and will see street dancers join competitors from all over the world to perform on the same stage as artists as diverse as opera superstar Bryn Terfel and rock legends Status Quo.

The closing date for entries from urban dance groups is March 7.

Musical director Eilir Owen Griffiths said: "Last year's event was a fantastic success, of which I am very proud, but the last thing we can afford to do is rest on our laurels."

"If we are to maintain and improve our standards we must not be complacent."

"It is therefore always a good to look at what we do to see if there are any ways we can do things even better next year."

"It is vitally important that we remain true to the core traditions of the Eisteddfod and we will always keep the faith with our cultural heritage, after all that is our raison d'être."



Llangollen International Eisteddfod Musical Director Eilir Owen Griffiths, appeals for dancers to enter the new urban hip hop dance competition.

"By the same token, we must also be aware culture is a living, vibrant, evolving phenomenon and we must attract and remain relevant to new audiences as well as continuing to provide a platform for more traditional music and dance."

## Experiment

"In recent years, the choral competitions have been enriched by the inclusion of barbershop and show choirs. It has been an extremely popular development."

"We are now introducing a similar experiment in the dance competitions at this year's eisteddfod."

"At the suggestion of our dance judges,

we will have a hip hop dance competition so that the contemporary urban dance tradition can be represented too."

"It is a highly popular and culturally important part of the dance scene so we think it makes sense to introduce a hip hop competition to assess how successful it is and whether it should be included in future festivals."

"We will of course be rigorous in ensuring that the eisteddfod's high standards are maintained at all times so there will be preliminary rounds to decide who is worthy of competing on the main stage."

The curtain raiser for this year's event

will mark the return of opera superstar Bryn Terfel to Llangollen.

The acclaimed bass baritone will be playing the lead in a special English-language production of Stephen Sondheim's Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street featuring an all-Welsh cast.

This year's will also feature concerts by Caro Emerald and veteran rockers Status Quo as well as a world premiere of a new work, Adiemus Colores, by composer Karl Jenkins.

To book tickets and for details about the urban dance contest go to the website at [www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk](http://www.international-eisteddfod.co.uk)

## CHART TOPPERS RAY SPILLER

Over 50 years ago the charts started and this column will look back at this week, three, 13, 23, 33 and 43 years ago

### THREE YEARS AGO...2011

Ke\$ha had a week at number one with We R Who We R. The controversial US songwriter and rapper had another top 10 single in 2012. Die Young. She was signed to producer Dr. Luke's record label, Kemosabe Entertainment in 2005 but her breakthrough didn't come until early 2009. She appeared on rapper Flo Rida's number-one single, Right Round.

### THIRTEEN YEARS AGO...2001

Limp Bizkit's third single, Rollin', shot straight into the charts at number one in 2001. But it only stayed at the top spot for two weeks. This was their only UK number one. The American metal group had a further top 10 hit in the same year with My Way. They've been nominated for three Grammy Awards.

### 23 YEARS AGO...1991

The fourth number one of 1991 managed to knock Queen from the top of the charts. KLF featuring Children of The Revolution only managed a two-week stay at the top with 3 AM Eternal. The instrumental duo of Bill Drummond and Jimmy Cauty had five records inside the top five but in 1992 they called it a day.

### 33 YEARS AGO...1981

In December 1980, the world lost one of the greatest talents in music. John Lennon was shot when returning to his New York apartment. Almost immediately his singles dominated the charts. During a week in January 1981 three of the top five singles in the charts were by him. His single Woman replaced Imagine at the top for two weeks in February.

### 43 YEARS AGO...1971

In 1971, the first Beattie to score a solo number one was lead guitarist George Harrison with My Sweet Lord. George had a two more number one singles in America. Only one other song, Got My Mind Set On You, made it into the top five in the UK in 1987. After his death in 2001 My Sweet Lord went back to number one in the UK.

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## MY WIFE AND CHILDREN HAVE LEFT. HOW CAN I FIND OUT WHERE THEY HAVE GONE?

**Q:** My wife and I had a terrible argument over Christmas and she walked out of the family home taking the children with her. I haven't heard from her since and I have no idea where she has gone. I thought when the new term started she would take the children to school and I would be able to go there and get to talk to her, but this is not the case and the head says she has no idea where they are either. I am completely distraught and I just don't know what to do. Can you advise me?

**A:** Your wife's whereabouts will be known to one of the national agencies or organisations and under Section 33 of the Family Law Act 1986 an Application can be made to the Court for a Disclosure of a Child's Whereabouts. The Court has the authority to order an organisation such as the Benefits Agency or HM Revenue and Customs to disclose the address of the children and/or your wife to the Court.

Once the address is disclosed to the Court, the Court will then serve your Application upon your wife and she will be ordered to attend at Court. Usually an Application for a Contact Order for Residence Order or Immediate Return of the Child Order will be made alongside such an Application. It is also possible that you can make an Application for a Specific Issue Order under Section 8 of the Children Act and ask the Court to order that the mother returns the children to their school and home.

As this is a complex matter you should seek the advice of a family lawyer as soon as possible and make an appointment to discuss all your options.

Further information relating to this question is available from Alison Monaghan, a Senior Solicitor with GHP Legal.

For information relating to any other legal matter please call GHP Legal on 01691 659194 or visit [www.ghplegal.co.uk](http://www.ghplegal.co.uk).

For Personal Injury and Family matters we offer a FREE legal diagnostic clinic every Wednesday 12-3pm (no appointment necessary). GHP Legal holds the Law Society Lexcel Quality Mark Accreditation





## LETTERS

## Charity's help for carers is vital work

AT most of our lives, most of us have experienced, or will experience, what it is like to care for those close to us - a mother, a father, a sibling, a friend, or simply someone we hold dear.

This month we celebrate Dignity Action Day. With 6.5 million carers across the UK, the need to recognise and support efforts of those providing care is greater than ever.

I would like to ask your readers to take a moment to consider what the term 'care' means to them.

I am incredibly proud to work for Vitalise, an amazing charity that for over 50 years has provided a respite break lifeline.

We believe care given to each individual we support should be as unique as the person receiving it, which is why our breaks help to restore bonds and create priceless moments.

Caring for someone in need of support is something we can all do. Without the array of dedicated and generous volunteers who pledge their time to us each year, we simply wouldn't be able to continue making such an invaluable difference to the lives of those we help.

So why not pledge to support Vitalise? No matter how you choose to do so, whether by making a donation, participating in one of our various fundraising events, or simply giving your time to volunteer, together we can change lives.

We would really love to hear from you! If you would like to support Vitalise, please call 0930 303 0147, or visit [www.vitalise.org.uk](http://www.vitalise.org.uk)

**STEPHANIE STONE**  
Vitalise

## Out thoughts are ignored

DOES Tom Casewell, of Llynchys not Oswestry, consider those of us who live on College Road when he suggests that the former leisure centre be used as a mobile home/lorry park?

The road is busy enough as it is without the extra noise of heavy vehicles at all times of the day and night. If he looks it is currently being used as an unofficial car park for the college. Maybe it's the college he needs to approach!

**A RESIDENT**  
College Road  
Oswestry

## Councils must say no to fracking

ARE we selling our environmental souls? There is no public support for fracking. The "greenest Government ever" is losing the argument as communities see the dangers of fracking.

Having had their statements on lower energy bills and job creation totally discredited, they resort to putting local councils under pressure to accept money, when vital services are being cut drastically.

They allow a French company to take a share in the drilling operations

at Gainsborough when the French government has said no to fracking. How ludicrous is that.

There will not be earthquakes and the claims of water pollution are overstated (but not unfounded). Let's ask ourselves what we are committing our communities to if Shropshire and Telford & Wrekin councils allow fracking in our area.

Will the one per cent of profit paid to our councils be enough to compensate for the damaged environment and

pollution? We should keep our fossil fuels in the ground, invest in clean renewable energy (which is not just wind and solar), provide jobs to insulate our houses and create energy efficiency.

Shale gas is cleaner than coal but it will stop us doing what we need to be doing to ensure a clean energy future.

Our councils must say no to this Government's madness.

**PHIL HARRISON**  
West Midlands Green Party

## Parking at unit is major concern

I WONDER if anyone else in Shropshire has experienced similar problems to myself when driving at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital, near the Day Surgery Unit, in regards to stupid parking, which partially blocks the supposed two lane road and pavements, turning it into one lane?

Maybe all these people's sat navs have broken down, or they all have double cataracts which blocks their vision and they are attending the unit to get them removed.

Whatever the reason, this problem has been going on for a long time. When I first noticed it, I mentioned it to the car parking attendants, their response was negative and a half-expected, "now't to do with me".

Why are they there then I wonder?

I have written a letter of complaint to the administration department of the hospital.

It says: cars parked along the one side of the road on double yellows including blocking the zig-zags line either side of the pelican type crossing (which is illegal on the public highway but it still goes on).

I took my wife there to the day surgery unit at 7.30am the roads were clear.

Upon returning at midday to collect her, I was met with carnage.

I had to reverse several times, other cars had to mount the pavement to get by me, some scraping their tyres on the pavement.

I would bet there will be many complaints and claims going in for damage caused to vehicles because of this problem.

Surely the money paid out could go some way to creating extra parking?

Why do the wardens not issue tickets? What is wrong with the powers-that-be in the offices?

Can they not see what is happening or may happen?

**KEN POOLE**  
Shifnal

## Club request

WE are re-starting the Shropshire Reminiscence in 2014 and are looking for people to join our group to help with setting up the workshops and attending committee meetings. Please contact Val Brown (01691) 712820 if you would like to be involved.

**V K BROWN**  
Llangollen

## Postcard scene of town half a century on



The Cross at Oswestry in a postcard scene which is undated, although the cars would point to it being perhaps late 1950s or early 1960s. Shops visible are, from left, Grant's, then the something ending in "ion Centre". On the other side of the road are W.E. Turner footwear, Corbett & Co, Barclays Bank, and the Pearl Assurance Company building.

## Condemning the head's judgement

HAVING heard the judgement of fools on the £1,000 fine for the Telford couple I make these comments.

Many people have to juggle two jobs and make holidays fit. I worked in the power industry and, in the summer, the first time I could reasonably take was one week into the school holidays. One of my daughters works in retail and her no-go holiday dates are Easter, summer holidays, and Christmas, what is she expected to do as and when she has children?

The headmaster who made this decision is on a salary unimaginable to mere mortals. To those who disagree, before they condemn, I ask have they found yourselves in the same position?

**CHRIS ADAMS**  
Oswestry

## LETTERS to the Editor

**POST** Readers' Letters, Oswestry Chronicle, Kelley, Telford TF1 5HU  
**FAX** 01952 254605  
**E-MAIL** [letters@oswestrychronicle.co.uk](mailto:letters@oswestrychronicle.co.uk)

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number of the writer. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters

## How much money has been wasted with these U-turns?

I WRITE further to the two letters printed on January 30 concerning the expected return of ambulances to key locations in North Shropshire.

This is yet another U-turn in both national and local government circles. It is providential that no person has died waiting for the arrival of an emergency ambulance thus far.

What concerns me is that these turnarounds of previous routines occur without thinking through the problems that might arise.

Officials initiating the changes are presumably in receipt of good salaries, but appear to be not fit for purpose, but I have yet to hear of one or more being shown the door.

Just think of the waste of money with these hair-brained ideas in these troubled financial times.

How can we citizens have confidence in our administrators with this state of affairs?

**JG TAYLOR, Oswestry**

## Thank you to all for your help

I CAUGHT the number 70 Shrewsbury to Oswestry bus recently, and asked the driver to drop me off at the nearest point to the Severn Hospice.

When the driver dropped me off, I found myself in the middle of nowhere, not knowing in which direction to walk, as I have never been to the hospice before, after walking for 45 minutes, I went into the The Four Crosses petrol station to ask directions.

I would like to say thank you to the lady behind the counter at the petrol station, and a special thank you for the kindness shown to me by the couple who stopped at the garage, just to buy a paper, who kindly took me in their car to the hospice.

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**NEWS****NEWS**

in brief

**A-level applicants being interviewed**

INTERVIEWS are being held now for next year's intake of A-level students at Walford and north Shropshire College – with staff hopeful of a repeat of last year's 100 per cent pass rate.

A-levels have been provided at the college in Oswestry for more than 40 years.

Sara Shelston, head of A-levels, said: "We are interviewing now for next year's intake and look forward to celebrating this success again in August."

Apply online at [www.wnsc.ac.uk](http://www.wnsc.ac.uk) or call admissions on (01691) 688080.

**Quiz will be in aid of lifeboat charity**

A QUIZ will be held in Oswestry later this month in aid of the RNLI lifeboat charity.

It will be held at the Wynnstay Hotel in the town on February 20 at 7pm for a 7.30pm start.

The cost is £15 for a table of four.

Entry forms are available from the offices of Lanyon Bowdler in Church Street.

**£1,000 prize won**

THIS week's Hope House Lottery winners have been announced with 059581 from Telford taking the £1,000 prize. Ticket 060360, also from Telford, won £100, 038119 won £50, and £25 went to 014914 and 025142.

# Wet weather hits profits at indoor and outdoor markets

**THE run-up to Christmas proved to be a bit of washout for traders on Oswestry's outdoor market, council bosses have revealed.**

But they have announced a series of events on the market to run throughout the year to boost trade and were asking councillors last night (Wednesday) whether they back plans for a specially organised Christmas Market this year as a new festive feature.

Oswestry Town Council markets manager David Clough said in a report to councillors: "Unfortunately the weather over the Christmas period was very damaging to trade, particularly the outdoor market."

by Iain St John

## Fresh appeal to motorists

VILLAGERS are making another plea for motorists to obey road rules on a narrow lane – because they have been ignoring it for 35 years.

In what could be the county's longest running highways headache, residents on Kimberley Lane in St Martins are making a further appeal to drivers not to come down the road as it has been an access only route for more than three decades.

Despite various previous pleas, police action and the installation of signs clearing making clear the road's status, drivers have consistently ignored the route rules, according to long time resident Dave Burkhill.

Mr Burkhill, 75, said: "Thirty-odd years of asking is a long time and enough is enough really."

"None of the residents are getting any younger and most are in the eighties and all we want is drivers to obey the rules. There are signs clearly saying it is access only but motorists just keep coming along it."

"The high winds and rain badly affected what is potentially a busy time."

"As you can imagine winter is always a difficult period for outdoor trading."

"The mayor and chairman of the markets and car parks committee visited the market on December 18 to do the annual meet and greet to all the traders and to wish everyone a happy Christmas."

"Unfortunately the weather was again poor on the day but spirits were lifted with the visit."

### Traders

Mr Clough said many markets in the area were visited in January in an attempt to attract new outdoor traders to Oswestry's market.

He said: "There has already been some visits from new traders, hopefully they were supported enough to encourage them to revisit."

Mr Clough said a host of events have been lined up to attract shoppers to the market including an Easter fun day, an antique fair and a continental market.

He added he had been in touch with Shrewsbury-based Asterley Events about staging a new Christmas Market.

Mr Clough said: "It is unfortunate that once Christmas Live and the Christmas Parade are over in the first week in December, there are no other activities."

Councillors were discussing the matter at their markets and car parks committee.

## Dragon plan roars back to life



A computer generated image of a massive Welsh dragon statue proposed for the A5 near to Chirk.

COULD an 80ft Welsh dragon one day stand roaring into the sky on the border between Shropshire and Wales?

The idea of a Welsh tourist attraction to rival the Angel of the North has taken several forms over the years.

And although the original idea – of having the dragon atop a 200ft tower – has been scaled down, businessman Simon Wingett believes his current £4 million proposal is a winner.

He wants to build an 80ft bronze dragon and cultural centre just off the A5 at Halton, near Chirk, the Roman gateway to Wales.

This week councillors in Chirk reiterated their support for the ambitious plans, which would create 80 jobs.

Chirk Town councillors backed the proposals to create a dragon tower after being asked to give their formal support by Mr Wingett.

Town clerk Sam Hughes told the councillors Mr Wingett had written asking for its support. The town council will not become a funding partner.

## Stones are thrown at vehicles in car park

POLICE have promised to continue a crackdown on anti-social behaviour in Chirk after complaints about youths throwing stones at moving cars.

The complaints were raised when police community support officers Dean Sawyer and Grace Jones updated councillors on current crime levels.

Mr Sawyer said there were five anti-social behaviour incidents reported in December and six reported in January.

He said youths had been spoken to about their behaviour and he said he expected the level of anti-social behaviour to drop after a few of the youths responsible for stone-throwing had been identified.

Councillor Jackie Allen urged the officers to carry on targeting the yobs and revealed her car had been struck three times by stones as she drove through the town car park last week.

Town clerk Sam Hughes said some of the youth had been blocking off the entrance to the car park.

Meanwhile, Councillor Terry Evans said he was concerned about suspicious cold callers in the town.

He said a man and a woman had been visiting addresses purporting to be from the RSPCA. Mr Sawyer said he would look into the issue.

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# Dawn vigil for hill fort protesters



Campaigners battling to protect Oswestry Hillfort from housing proposals took part in a sunrise vigil.



Around 15 people joined the early morning procession organised by Hands off Old Oswestry Hillfort.



Maggie Rowlands, former project officer for the hill fort, at sunrise.

**CAMPAIGNERS** gathered on top of Oswestry's ancient hill fort to retrace the footsteps of their ancestors – and highlight why they are against housing being built in the hill's shadow.

Lanterns, drums and the head of a unicorn were some of the items carried up to the top of Old Oswestry for a dawn vigil on Sunday morning.

by Tom Morton

About 15 people joined the early morning procession organised by Hands Off Old Oswestry Hillfort, a group campaigning against proposals for housing development close to the 3,000 year old Iron Age monument.

The vigil was to mark the Celtic celebration of Imbolc, also known as Candlemas or Brigid's Day, which falls between the winter solstice and spring equinox and signals first signs of Spring.

Campaigner Maggie Rowlands said she

organised the gathering at short notice after discovering the sun would be seen rising over The Wrekin, another important Shropshire hill fort, highlighting the site's significance.

## Important

Mrs Rowlands, 63, of Chirk Bank, once project officer for the hill fort under Oswestry Borough Council, said: "We hope to demonstrate that the line of sight between the hill forts was an important function of what the hill forts were about, and by building houses in the way

you lose that view." Campaigner Kate Clarke, 50, of Chapel Street, Oswestry said: "It taps into the emotion of people in Oswestry about the housing development."

"If you think about the people who would have done this all that time ago, it's another example for the rich history of the hill fort, which I think people are waking up to. We're the descendants, in a way, of those people."

Areas of land around the landmark have been put forward as potential development sites for housing under Shropshire Council's

SAMDev planning process which will govern where houses are built in the future.

The move sparked an online petition which attracted nearly 8,000 signatures against the plans.

The campaigners are urging for the hill fort's setting and views from and to it to be safeguarded from development.

They say a full archaeological assessment should be carried out before three parcels of land near the hill fort are put forward as potential sites in the SAMDev process.

## Children's Half Term Events

Wednesday 19th & 26th February 10am to 11am

### Craft session

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**WELSHPOOL NEWS**

01691 668094

**Pancake races to be held in town**

WELSHPOOL Council's bid to raise the town's profile starts on March 4 with pancake races on the Maesydre Recreation Ground.

Last month it was announced that with events like the Air Show and Carnival being cemented into the annual social calendar with more including the Welsh Crazy Golf Championships on August Bank Holiday planned.

And from 2pm on March 4, Maesydre will host an afternoon of races to allow participants to work up a hunger for the inevitable tea time pancake binge.

The races will be held over a course of obstacles with local schools in Welshpool invited to take part by entering eight youngsters from each year.

"There will also be a teachers' race and parents' race so it should be a fun event for everyone involved," said a town council spokesperson.

**Board meeting**

PEOPLE are invited to attend a board meeting of Natural Resources Wales to watch the board discuss its business next Wednesday. Items for discussion include internal drainage districts' rates and levies. People will also have the opportunity to meet board members.

**Post office to relocate as shop reveals it will close**

**WELSHPOOL'S only post office could have to relocate after its current shop host revealed it is to close.**

The post office counter in Welshpool is currently located in One Stop, on Broad Street. But this week the shop confirmed it plans to close, leaving the Post Office unsure as to where it will be based.

Mike Hill, spokesman for One Stop, said: "We have exchanged contracts for this store, subject to Post Office approval, and expect the deal to be completed in the next few months."

by **Graham Breeze****Give exhibition on rugby a try**

AN exhibition showcasing Welsh rugby history is showing at the Powysland Museum.

Rugby was introduced into Wales in the mid-19th century and since then it has gone from strength to strength.

Powysland Museum has artefacts and memorabilia relating to the Welsh Rugby Union (WRU), the national team and their opponents, as well as rugby teams including Welshpool Rugby Club.

The items have been lent by the WRU Archives and Museum, by St Fagans, The National History Museum and by Welshpool Rugby Club.

The exhibition follows in the tradition of displays on the Welsh Football Association and George Best, which both proved popular.

The museum is open all year round: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 11am-1pm and 2-5pm, and Saturday from 11am-2pm.

For further information email [powysland@powys.gov.uk](mailto:powysland@powys.gov.uk)

The Post Office confirmed it has been told the shop will be closing and said it is looking at options for future locations.

Spokesman Cathal Wogan said: "We can confirm that One Stop have given us notice they are leaving the Welshpool premises. Customers should be assured that the Post Office is committed to maintaining a Post Office service in Welshpool and will work hard to ensure this."

"If this involves a relocation of the Post Office it would be subject to a full public consultation."

**Access**

Welshpool resident Colin Williams said he was upset to hear the post office could be relocating, especially as it is the only one in Welshpool.

He said: "I'm in a wheelchair and the One Stop has good access to the post office. "I use it all the time for eBay and things like that."

"Where it was before it was a bit awkward to get in, so I hope they think about finding somewhere with good access if they move."

"There's only one post office in Welshpool so if it closes then that will be very bad."

Mr Hill, from One Stop, said there was no date set for the closure of the shop yet.

**Walkers brave the weather**

Les Hughes with Van Evans and Sandra Smith on Welshpool Ramblers' recent walk.

BOB Hartley will lead Welshpool Ramblers on an eight mile 'moderate' grade circular walk from Montgomery on Sunday.

The intended route, which is subject to variation because of ground conditions due to wet weather, will set off north onto Offa's Dyke Path to Forden, returning by way of Hendemon.

Walkers are asked to meet at Church Street car park, Welshpool at 9.30am or at the Montgomery playing field car park at 10am. Further information can be obtained

on 01686 420444. A walk is scheduled for Sunday February 23 in the Bishop's Castle area.

Only four walkers took an optimistic view of the weather forecast for what turned out to be a pleasant walk organised by Les Hughes through the Powis Castle Park to Top of Belan and, eventually, Chapel Bridge on the Montgomery Canal. After a pleasant lunch stop on the seat by Bridge 122 of the Canal, the towpath was followed to the conclusion of the walk in Welshpool.

**Police in an appeal after glass attack**

A MAN has been arrested on suspicion of a serious assault after a man was struck in the face with a glass at a Welshpool nightclub.

Police are appealing for witnesses to come forward to the assault inside Molto's nightclub in the town at about 2.30am on Sunday, January 26.

PC Amy Davies of Dyfed-Powys Police, said: "This is a serious assault where a male has been assaulted with a glass to the face."

"I would urge anyone with any information regarding this incident to come forward."

"At this time a 29-year-old man has been arrested on suspicion of this offence and bailed however the investigation is still ongoing."

Anyone who was inside the club during the time of the offence and can help the police is asked to contact Newtown CID on 101.

**Good turnout for slide show**

THERE was a good turnout at Welshpool Rotary Club's meeting at The Royal Oak last Wednesday.

The speaker was Rotarian Jeff Davies, who showed slides of some of the world's most unusual buildings. The vote of thanks was given by Ewen MacLeod.



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**Come to sunny LLANDUDNO this summer**

Age UK Shropshire Telford & Wrekin is organising, as it did last year, a holiday for older people at the Queen's Hotel, Llandudno from 12th to 19th July 2014. The hotel is on the seafront, near to shops and cafes and has two lifts.

This holiday is for people who find it hard or impossible to go on holiday independently. There are special arrangements for those who use a wheelchair. Those who are wheelchair dependent must provide their own carer.

Anyone in Shropshire may apply.

The cost of accommodation at the Queens Hotel is £300 for the week; this includes dinner bed and breakfast. Transport to and from Llandudno is provided, from various pick up points around the County, at a cost of £50. There are daily excursions into North Wales and for these there will be a small charge of £1 per trip. There is entertainment in the hotel every evening.

There are a limited number of single rooms.

However, we welcome applications from those willing to share twin or double rooms.

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Application forms will be sent out 28 February to all who have requested them.

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## WELSHPOOL NEWS

01691 668094

## Cinema revitalised as wellness centre



Change of use – the old Pola Cinema in Welshpool is to become a wellness centre, opening on May 3.

THE former Pola Cinema building in Welshpool is undergoing a huge transformation to become a state-of-the-art wellness centre.

The cinema closed its doors after more than half a century last year and has been taken over by a local husband and wife team who are turning it into a major health, fitness and beauty spa business.

"The work is in full swing and there is still a long way to go before we are ready on May 3," said Chris Greateux, a health and fitness specialist who has gone into partnership with his wife Stacey, an expert in the beauty industry.

"We have taken over the lot, including the former restaurant downstairs as well as the two cinemas upstairs, with the intention of completely transforming it."

## Cancer survivor raises £550

A FESTIVE fundraising drive by a breast cancer survivor has brought in more than £550 for a cancer charity in Shropshire.

Katy Godsell, who works at Cambrian Training Company in Welshpool, persuaded friends and colleagues to dig deep over Christmas to raise funds for the Lingen Davies Cancer Fund at the Royal Shrewsbury Hospital.

Katy has recently completed treatment for breast cancer and, because the lives of several workmates have

by Pam Kingsley

also been touched by cancer in recent years, she found no shortage of support for the fundraising.

A total of £553 was raised by making and selling handmade Christmas decorations, Christmas wishes instead of cards, an auction of a beautiful crocheted blanket made by colleague Norma Thomas, a raffle, a quiz and a staff fancy dress day.

Sharon Thomas, manager of Mid Wales Homecare, also made and sold

Christmas decorations to support fundraising.

"Special thanks go to Norma and Sharon Thomas and Joyce Godsell for all their hard work making decorations, Joyce for her time and dedication organising and co-ordinating the activities and to all staff for their kind donations," said Katy.

"We decided to raise money for Lingen Davies Cancer Fund as cancer has hit so many staff, family and friends over the last couple of years. It supports local cancer patients across Mid Wales and Shropshire."

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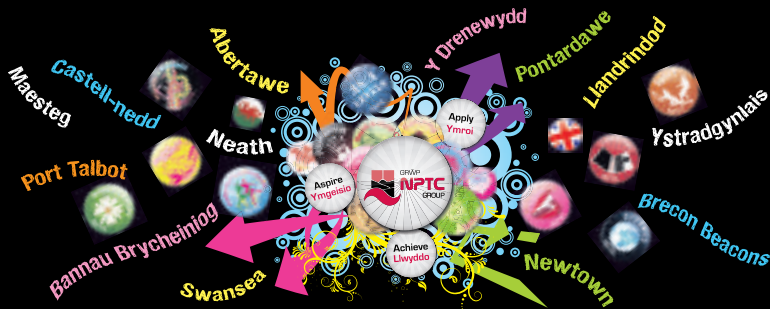
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**NEWS****NEWS**

in brief

**Guided nature walk takes in lake views**

A GUIDED walk around Lake Vyrnwy will take place on Sunday taking in viewpoints, local interest and history, as well as seasonal nature.

The walk will start from the RSPB shop at 11am and will take about an hour and a half to complete. The terrain is not difficult, but there may be one or two steep climbs and some rough ground.

Booking is essential. Contact the RSPB shop on (01691) 870278. The walk will cost £5 for adult non-members, £2.50 for RSPB members, £2.50 for children under 14 non-members, and £1.50 for Wildlife Explorer members.

**Stars lined up for next Osfest**

X FACTOR finalist Luke Friend and chart star DJ Wilkison will take to the stage at this year's Osfest music festival.

Friend will line up with fellow X Factor contestants Union J, on the Sunday night of the festival, which will be held at the Park Hall showground, near Oswestry on May 24 and 25. Wilkison will be one of those headlining the Saturday stage.

**Date for organist**

BLACKPOOL Tower Ballroom organist John Bowdler will perform at the Marches School on March 7. Tickets are £7 from (01691) 653493.

# Concerns raised over who will use expanded home

**COUNCILLORS** fear Chirk residents may lose out if people from further afield are given places in the town's new look care home.

The councillors were given an update on the refurbishment of Chirk Court Care Home at a meeting last week by bosses from Pennaf Housing Group.

And they voiced concerns after hearing that although the housing group would prefer the places at the new modern care home to go to local people, there would be no guarantees.

Arwyn Evans from the group said the plans had won planning approval and work was starting on the redevelopment of the home.

**Bedrooms**

He said four new wings would be created and an existing part of the home would be refurbished to the existing residents.

In total there would be 56 new bedrooms with en suite facilities and 10 refurbished rooms developing a care home to accommodate 66 clients.

The four new wings would accommodate elderly and mentally ill clients and staff numbers would be doubled, the meeting heard.

Mr Evans said a new entrance would be developed. He said: "We are just upgrading everywhere. The new clients will be the elderly, mentally ill.

"The borough council, who are our key partners,

by Iain St John

have indicated that is where the need is."

The meeting heard the new building would be custom built to meet the needs of people with dementia.

However, Councillor Jackie Allen said she believed there was a greater need in the area for residential accommodation rather than for elderly and mentally ill clients.

Councillor Terry Evans said he was concerned to hear there was interest from people from places such as Cheshire, Birmingham and Wolverhampton when the home should concentrate on the population of Chirk.

Kevin Hughes from Pennaf Housing Group said the organisation would also prefer local residents, but added: "I am not saying people will not come from other areas. There is freedom of movement."

Councillors agreed to invited Wrexham Council bosses to a future meeting to discuss some of the issues raised.

## College's pupils speak to campaigners



Jenny Rice, chairman of Oswestry equality group, Danny Percy, NUS president and Mayor Chris Schofield take a look at the slideshow before the meeting at Eastern Oswestry Community Centre.

THE public's perception of disability was challenged during a meeting of a new Oswestry campaign group.

The talks were staged by Oswestry Equality Group at Eastern Oswestry Community Centre and attended by Oswestry Mayor Chris Schofield and by students from Gobowen's Derwen College, which specialises in educating

and catering for people with learning and physical disabilities.

The students spoke of their experiences and how they cope with their disabilities.

Other students spoke of their frustrations but also of their skills and their determination to lose labels they had been given by society.

Staff gave a presentation about disabilities and carried out a myth-busting quiz on the audience. The students gave out ear plugs and dark glasses to the audience to give them a flavour of what it is like living with a disability.

The group's next meeting will be in April and will look at the economy and employment in Oswestry.

## Author is visiting to talk about his book

AUTHOR Graeme Simsion will be visiting Oswestry today (Thursday) to talk about his debut novel, *The Rosie Project*.

Described as a cross between Mark Haddon's *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, about a teenager with Asperger's, and David Nicholls's *One Day*, a bitter-sweet love story, the book has topped the Australia and US bestselling charts and earned glowing reviews in the Sunday Times Best-seller's list.

Graeme, who is from Australia, will be at Booka Bookshop at 7pm to talk about his book, his burgeoning career and where he gets his ideas.

*The Rosie Project* is about 39-year-old geneticist Don Tillman, a man with undiagnosed Asperger's syndrome who has never had a second date. He devises the wife project, a scientific test to find the perfect partner, and then meets Rosie - the world's most incompatible woman.

Tickets are £8, with £5 of that cost redeemable against a book purchase on the night. To book, call in at the shop, call (01691) 662244 or [mail@bookabookshop.co.uk](mailto:mail@bookabookshop.co.uk)

Those unable to attend but who want a signed copy of *The Rosie Project* should the shop before the event.

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## NEWS

## NEWS

in brief

## Regional win for teenaged fencer

TEENAGE fencer Olivia Owen-Sinclair has been crowned regional champion and will now go forward to the national contest in May.

The 16 year old, who is in Year 12 at Moreton Hall School in Weston Rhym, near Oswestry, became Midlands regional champion in the closed fencing competition.

Olivia, who is already the county champion, won the Midlands regional finals with scores in her final matches of 15-3 and 15-11.

She will now go on to the nationals in May.

## Multi-lingual carol concert success

MUSICAL children from a county primary school raised £500 for charity after singing Christmas carols in three languages.

Brynhafron School pupils, in Crew Green, held a carol concert in aid of the Severn Hospice at St Michael and All Angels Church, Alberbury.

School spokeswoman Cathy Beckett said: "The church was full, not only with parents, but also lots of people from the local community."

## Election at club

THE next meeting of Llanfair Bowling Club will be held on February 25 at 7.30pm in the club house at Llanfair Caereinion. The club is looking to elect a chairperson.

# Redesign could keep retail and leisure complex viable

**DEVELOPERS** are seeking permission to redesign part of the layout of a £45 million edge-of-town retail and leisure complex to ensure it remains financially viable.

They want to change the location of the park and ride facilities at the Smithfield livestock site in Oswestry, create a pedestrian walkway leading into the site and reduce the number of parking spaces for the proposed Morrisons supermarket from 870 to 822. It is also proposed to reduce the amount of floor-space for non-food goods in the supermarket.

Those behind the project say the move will ensure the scheme, which will also include a multiplex cinema and a new cattle market, remains viable.

Frankie and Benny's and McDonald's restaurants are also planned as part of the transformation of the site.

But new planning papers lodged with Shropshire Council on behalf of developers Optimisation Development Ltd say the cost of providing a new primary sub-station at the site means the scheme as currently laid out is not financially viable.

Development consultants Peacock and Smith Ltd, on behalf of the developers, says: "The scheme, as currently consented, is not financially viable due to the costs associated with the provision of the primary sub-station."

"The net sales area and

by Iain St John

footprint of the store will remain as previously consented.

"However, it is proposed that a smaller amount of the net sales area will be used for non food (comparison) goods."

"In line with other Morrisons stores, 20 per cent of the sales area rather than 35 per cent, will be used for the sale of comparison goods."

"This change arises from Morrisons' trading format, but does not require any amendment to the planning permission."

A further planning statement by transport consultant Bryan G Hall says although the 48 park and ride car park spaces was below the agreed 90 spaces, the situation would be monitored.

If it was found there was a further demand for spaces for the park and ride, 90 spaces would be provided.

Shropshire Council hopes to make a decision by April 17.

## Groups give orthopaedic hospital a boost



Llanfechain WI members Christine Kingsley-Rowe and Margaret Holmes with Shirley Oakley, Dawn Pickstock and Jane Davies.



Gaynor Hughes from the ladies club with consultant Aheed Osman, Kate Betts and Rebecca Warren.

TWO women's groups have both given money to support appeals at Oswestry Orthopaedic Hospital.

Llanfechain WI raised £500 for the hospital's bone cancer centre appeal with a Christmas concert while women from The Royal Oak Ladies Club in Welshpool raised £100 for the hospital's Midlands Centre for Spinal Injuries.

The WI concert was led by the Oswestry Orthopaedic Male Voice Choir and WI members and the local community who baked mince pies and Christmas goodies and served homemade mulled wine. They also ran a raffle.

The Royal Oak Ladies Club in Welshpool chairman Gaynor Hughes described how everyone enjoyed hearing a true and realistic portrayal of service in Afghanistan at their last meeting. She said: "The presentation was a real eye-opener."

## Glimmer of hope for fort campaign

CAMPAIGNERS fighting to keep housing away from the iron age hill fort in Oswestry say they have seen a glimmer of light in the planning process.

Campaigners were joined by national archaeologists George Nash and Rachel Pope at the Guildhall as Oswestry Town Council decided on its response.

Under Shropshire Council's SAMeV plans - which plot the future development of Shropshire - three sites close to the hill fort could be put forward for housing.

But Oswestry Town Council voted to object to the inclusion of land adjacent to Jasmine Gardens.

And plans to develop Oldport Farm and land off Whittington Road will only get the town council's support if there is a full historical assessment.

Hooch, the Hands off Old Oswestry group, said later that it was seeing signs that the town council was starting to listen.

Group member Neil Phillips said: "What's really encouraging is the town council forming a view of the Oldport proposals outside of English Heritage, and taking the initiative to query the evidence base - something English Heritage should have done itself."

"We need to keep pressing home the point over and over and over again."

BRITISH



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COME &amp; MEET URI GELLER

The British Ironwork Centre in Oswestry Shropshire has been challenged to create a 12ft Gorilla statue from old spoons.

Uri Geller famous TV personality and mystifier who opens his gardens to charity, has asked the Ironwork Centre to create a monstrous gorilla sculpture from a mixture of iron & spoons from members of the British public.

Mr Geller has said: "I use the sculptures in my garden to inspire poorly children. I think it helps them to think positively."

School Campaign

Nearly 20 schools have now joined the campaign

If you are a school and you wish to be included please contact us!

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## NEWS

01691 668094

## Network group on energy is launched

A NETWORKING group has been set up to help communities across Powys move to low carbon energy for the future.

The Powys Transition and Low Carbon Communities Network has been set up to help towns and villages in the county with the transition from a high dependency on fossil fuels to a low carbon future with alternative energy generation systems, from solar to hydro.

The Network is being funded by the PAVO One Powys Connecting Voices programme and the Big Lottery for five years, and will provide free training, promotional materials, opinion surveys and opportunities to share knowledge, experience and resources.

Chairman Mike Mernbery said: "Transition networks are global and in the UK alone over 200 groups are initiating thousands of projects which, ultimately, will benefit their communities with energy, food and transport security for the coming years. Ultimately it's about creating a healthy human culture and our organisation is here to guide, help and support this."

For more information email [chairman@PowysTransition.org.uk](mailto:chairman@PowysTransition.org.uk)

The network's first annual conference will be held in Llandrindod Wells on March 29.

## Town's gardening project marks successful first year

A TOWN gardening project is celebrating a successful first year which has seen vegetables grown in a car park and at a tourist information centre.

Incredible Edible Oswestry started a year ago as a group of keen gardeners got together to encourage more people to grow their own food and turn bare ground into vegetable plots.

The group had 50 people attend its first meeting as they batted around ideas for locations in which to plant and ways to encourage more people to get growing.

by Pam Kingsley

## Council to host volunteer day

ORGANISATIONS looking for volunteers and people with spare time on their hands are invited to take part in Welshpool's volunteer day next month.

The event will be held on March 29 in the Corn Exchange at Welshpool Town Hall.

Volunteer groups from the Welshpool area will be there displaying their organisation's work or activities in order to raise awareness and perhaps also funds for their causes.

And the event will also provide the opportunity for anyone with any spare time to see how they can help the community by getting involved with voluntary work.

The event is being organised by Welshpool Town Council and will run from 9am until noon.

Any organisations interested in having a display at the event should contact the town clerk's office on (01938) 553142 or email [wtccouncil@btinternet.com](mailto:wtccouncil@btinternet.com)

There are still a few spaces left.

Since then, planters have been installed in the car park of Cornerstone Baptist Church, Roff Street, and at the town's visitor information centre in Church Terrace, volunteers have worked on a community orchard alongside the track of the Cambrian Heritage Railway, and apples harvested from around the town have been juiced as part of Oswestry Apple Day.

One of this year's goals will be to find a home for a new 8ft by 6ft greenhouse which has been donated to the project.

Sue Stedman, from IE Oswestry, said: "We would love to have this available for the group to use to raise seedlings for the various projects we have running. What we need is a site for it that individuals and small groups can easily access, so would prefer somewhere in the town area. We also would need you to be able to keep an eye on the seedlings and water as necessary."

"In return, you would be able to grow and share the seedlings raised and use any spare space to grow your own veg."

The group will be using its first meeting of 2014, on February 24, to help plan our year ahead and get actively involved in new and existing projects.

Mrs Stedman said: "We are looking forward to building on our successes in 2014. We will be sharing progress reports on the various projects that commenced in 2013 and discussing how these can be maintained and developed further this year."

## Overjoyed at sub success



Sian Jones, Kate Pumphrey and Laura Mercer with the new Queen of Hearts sub.

A NEW sandwich for food chain Subway, devised by girls at an Oswestry school, went on sale this week.

Students at Moreton Hall Girls School near Oswestry won a national competition to come up with a new taste for the sandwich giants.

The winning student team, comprising Sian Jones, Kate Pumphrey and Laura Mercer, visited their local Subway outlet in

Oswestry to see their new invention being made for the first time.

The girls came up with the Queen of Hearts sub, which consists of Italian bread, turkey, lettuce, tomatoes, cucumber and honey mustard sauce. The team pitched their new design and marketing strategy in a Dragons Den-style judging day in Birmingham and for a limited time will see their creation in stores across Central England.

## Derwen College ready to expand

DERWEN College, which provides education and employment opportunities for young people with learning difficulties and disabilities, is set to expand over the border into north Wales.

The college will open the doors of its new site at Ashdale House, Higher Penley, near Ellesmere, in September.

The college, which is based in Gobowen, near Oswestry, was founded in 1927 by Dame Agnes Hunt - who also founded the neighbouring orthopaedic hospital - to offer vocational training courses to young people with disabilities.

Students are offered training alongside work at The Orangery Restaurant, The Gallery, Young's Farm Shop, The Garden Centre, Tiffins and The Coffee Shop.

Coleg Derwen, the new campus, will provide further vocational learning opportunities in an outdoor environment for students aged 16-25 with challenging needs. It will be based at the former equestrian facility at Ashdale House.

Staff welcomed Clwyd South Assembly Member Ken Skates to the site this week. Mr Skates said: "The course involves learning a range of work-based activities in horticulture and conservation as well as art, English, maths and IT."

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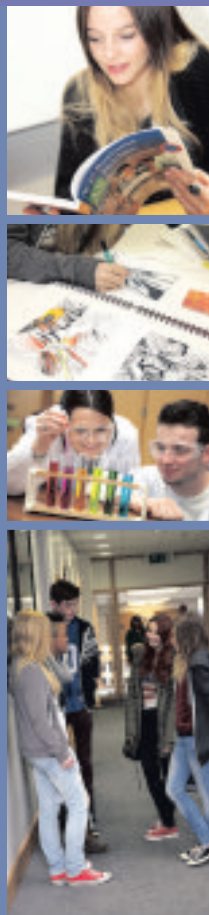
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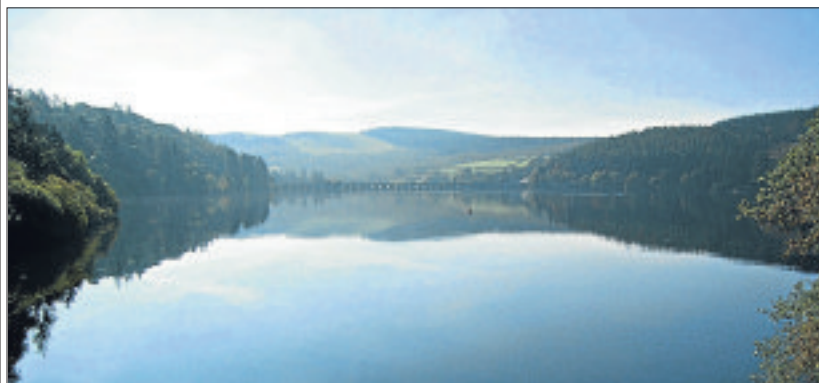


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COLLEGE

## HALF TERM

01691 668094

# Holiday fun for children at superb RSPB reserve



The stunning countryside at Lake Vyrnwy.

**THE RSPB Lake Vyrnwy nature reserve, with its variety of different habitats, is an ideal place to keep children occupied in the half term break.**

Lying above the beautiful reservoir of Lake Vyrnwy are thousands of hectares of heather moorland, meadow and woodland, crossed by rocky streams and dotted with crags.

The RSPB, in partnership with Severn Trent Water, manages part of the reserve as the largest organic farm in England and Wales.

You may see great crested grebes and goosanders on the water, dippers by the streams and ravens, buzzards

## Advertisement feature

and even a peregrine, soaring overhead.

There's a warm welcome in the RSPB shop by the dam, with its wide range of gifts and books, from where you can access nature trails and information about the surrounding countryside. It is also the main starting point for the schedule of events and guided walks that cater for birdwatching beginners, families and the more active walker and birdwatcher.

Although the hillside makes for difficult terrain, one of the hides in the reserve is accessible by wheelchair. There's plenty for children to do, including nestbox trails and bat and

owl walks. The RSPB speaks out for birds and wildlife, tackling the problems that threaten our environment.

The RSPB is the largest wildlife conservation organisation in Europe with over a million members its work is focussed on the species and habitats that are in the greatest danger.

The organisation is driven by the belief that birds and wildlife enrich people's lives and that we all have a responsibility to protect wildlife.

The organisation has over 18,000 volunteers, 1,300 staff, more than 200 nature reserves, nine regional offices, a UK headquarters, three national offices – and one vision – to work for a better environment rich in birds and wildlife.

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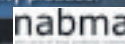
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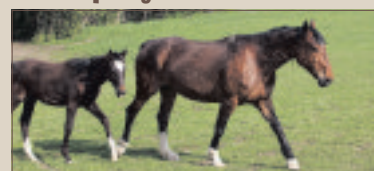
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## HALF TERM

01691 668094

# Feeding time for lambs as spring comes to Park Hall

### Advertisement feature

#### READY for the first signs of spring?

Then what better way to start, than with lamb feeding at Park Hall Countryside Experience, Oswestry.

From February 15 visitors to Park Hall can enjoy the magical experience of bottle feeding lambs at this national award winning farm.

The star attractions, of course, are the cute and cuddly cade lambs which are due to arrive soon on the farm.

The lambs need to be fed at regular intervals so visitors to Park Hall get the chance to feed them twice a day.

It's a really enjoyable experience for young and old alike and afterwards you get the chance to stroke and pet the lambs.

#### Activities

In addition to the lamb feeding, Park Hall is getting ready for two action packed weeks of interactive activities which will keep the kids happy throughout their visit.

Each day kids can groom a pony, hand-milk a cow, hold gorgeous rabbits or lead the magnificent heavy horses across the stable yard. 'Pig Racing' is a must - held twice a day weather permitting - it's hilarious!

Park Hall is an all weather farm visitor attraction and has so many of its activities under cover, so rain never stops play. Two huge indoor play barns guarantee endless entertainment. There's even a 'Demon Drop Slide,' if the kids want a real thrill.

If its action and adventure that the kids are looking for, then the new pedal go kart track is the thing to try, adults can have a go too!

There's lots of outdoor adventure play, and fabulous kids driving activities. The kids can get behind the wheel at the



Aimie Robbins, animal care supervisor, with a newly born lamb ready for feeding at Park Hall Countryside Experience.

Land Rovers and driving school or on the barrel train. Check out more of the farm on the Big Blue Tractor ride with trips to the woodland.

Park Hall promises to be a big hit for all the family this half term and is open daily from February 15 to March 2 from 10am to 4pm.

Adult admission £7.95, Children £7.95, Concessions £7.45. Family (2+2) £31.00.

For further information call 01691 671123 or visit [www.parkhallfarm.co.uk](http://www.parkhallfarm.co.uk)

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**NEWS**

01691 668094

**NEWS**  
in brief**Health watchdog left disappointed**

THE health service watchdog for North Wales has said it is disappointed about the decision made by health board managers to temporarily suspend non-urgent operations at Wrexham Maelor Hospital after an influx of people with complex health problems.

Geoff Ryall-Harvey, chief officer for the North Wales Community Health Council, said: "The CHC has always quizzed the health board on plans for temporary changes."

"We have always been clear that if such plans proved necessary, the board should give notification of such changes as far in advance as possible."

**Charity quiz night in aid of the RNLI**

THE Oswestry branch of the RNLI will hold a charity quiz night on February 20 at the Wynnstey Hotel.

First prize will be a meal for four worth up to £120 at a local restaurant.

Entry fee is £15 for a team of four people.

All proceeds will go to the RNLI lifeboat charity.

The event will start at 7.30pm. For more information call Kevin Thomas on (01691) 652241.

**Toddlers group**

A MOTHERS and toddlers group is being held at Cockshutt Primary School the first Thursday of the month from 1.30pm to 3.30pm at £1 per family.

# Pupils take on more than just song and dance roles

by Sue Austin

**WHEN pupils at an Oswestry secondary school decided to put on their own show they discovered it was far more than just a song and dance.**

The pupils at The Marches School in Oswestry have been busy painting sets, stitching their costumes and rehearsing their lines, all in preparation for the opening night of their school production of *Annie*.

The young people are all from the performing arts department at the secondary school and sixth form college.

**Escapes**

Annie, a double cast role played by 15 year olds Kira Scott and Holly Hutchon, is an 11-year-old girl who lives in an orphanage. The plucky girl escapes and goes in search of her parents.

But she is caught by Miss Hannigan, who runs the orphanage, another double cast role played by Heather Bontoft, who is 15, and Katie Smethurst, 16.

The musical unfolds as Annie continues in her quest to find her parents.

Jessica Andrews, performing arts teacher at the school, said: "The students are rehearsing extremely hard and we can't wait for the opening night."

"Students have done everything, from painting sets and making costumes to rehearsing their lines and choreographing the song and dance routines."

She said that 35 students, from across all year groups, will play their part in performing the vibrant musical which was performed from Monday until Thursday last week.

The full cast of the Marches School in Oswestry's production of *Annie*.

Kira Scott as Annie, rehearses with the orphans.



Rhys Davies, Stuart Green, Tom Evans and Kira Scott.

## Progress on building medical practice

WORK is well under way on Chirk's £2.4 million new medical practice.

At the moment the building is shrouded in green sheeting while contractors work on the site on land off Colliery Road but the new centre, which will replace the doctors' surgery in Castle Road, is expected to open on schedule in March.

The new surgery will have facilities to enable minor operations to be carried out and provide space for health visitors and district nurses as well as midwives and outpatient appointments.

It means some residents who would normally have to travel to Wrexham Maelor Hospital will be able to see in Chirk instead.

Doctors have welcomed the impending move saying patients deserve the new facilities. A pharmacy is also expected to open within the building, which will be called the Castle Heath Centre.

Betsi Cadwaladr University Health Board won Welsh Government funding approval for the centre in 2012 after it had been a high priority for some years.

There had been fears the building may never materialise after a decision was delayed in the early 2000s.

But in early 2013 the scheme was given the go-ahead and the land made available by Wrexham County Borough Council.

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One of the first adventures on the itinerary is the famous Pinnawela Elephant Orphanage which boasts a herd of over 75 animals from matriarchs to calves and their daily bath in the river provides a stunning photo opportunity.

Some of the other included tours are to the 600 foot granite tower called Sigiriya, or the Lion Rock, known for its ancient murals of 'cloud maidens'; to Kandy, Sri Lanka's last Royal capital; to the amazing cave temples of Dambulla, a UN World Heritage site; and to a well-known tea estate and spice garden, staying at the four-star Grand Hotel, originally the summer home of one of the Governors of Ceylon.

For a different sort of experience, two nights are reserved at the Safari Hotel, which has a pool, bar and restaurant overlooking the Tiffa Lake. Just 45 minutes from the Yala National Park this is the base for an early morning start to the jeep safari in the hope of seeing leopard, elephants, saltwater crocodiles, wild boar, sloth bears, monitor lizards and a huge variety of birdlife. The three-star superior Palms Hotel in the beach resort of Beruwela is the final port of call, allowing for two days of rest and relaxation before the journey home.

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**NEWS**

01691 668094

**A chilling adventure on stage at theatre**

A WORLD of chilling adventure will be coming to Llanfyllin this month.

Hans Christian Andersen's magical tale of love and bravery, *The Snow Queen*, will be brought to life at Theatr Llywn.

The *Snow Queen* tells the tale of Gerda, a girl whose love for her missing friend Cei takes her on a long and dangerous adventure.

With the help of many odd creatures, she journeys through strange lands and meets stranger folk, never giving up hope that she can get her friend back from the grasp of the mysterious *Snow Queen*.

Using sound, puppetry and storytelling, this production is being brought to life by Milly Jackdaw, Jo Vagabondi and Vee Robinson.

The show will be most suitable for children over five and their families and will take place at 2pm on February 22 in the Theatr at Llanfyllin.

Tickets are £5 for adults and £2.50 for children, available from Arts Connection on (01691) 648929 or [sian@artsconnection.org.uk](http://sian@artsconnection.org.uk)

**Cups raised to toast future of new cafe open at church**

by Graham Breeze

**VOLUNTEERS** are raising their cups to a bright future after a new cafe opened at a church.

Café Life will be open three days a week at the Whole Life Christian Centre in Cabin Lane, Oswestry and was opened with a fun day.

The café, which has been set up to give people a relaxing place to eat, drink and chat, is managed by church member Hannah Guntrip and staffed by volunteers.

Mrs Guntrip, 31, who lives in Maesbury Marsh, said: "We wanted to open a café as a community space so people can come and meet together."

"It's about providing a space that's warm and friendly and people can feel safe and drink coffee and eat lunch and just chat."

**Quieter**

"We had well over 100 people at the opening and, although it's been a bit quieter on the first day, we expect it to pick up again once word of mouth gets around."

As well as the coffee and teas – all Fair-trade – the café will serve sandwiches, paninis, jacket potatoes and soup and will offer a children's menu and child-size portions of hot chocolate and warm milks.

"It's very important to us that we're family-friendly," Mrs Guntrip said.

"There are toys and crayons inside and also we really want to use the community garden at the back of the centre, which is a brilliant resource."

The first month will be run with trial opening times of Mondays 8.30am to 12.30pm and 6pm to 9pm, Wednesdays 8.30am to 4.30pm, and Fridays 11.30am to 4.30pm.



From left are Ian Guntrip, Maria Palmer, Carol Thompson, Glenn Leaver, Christine Myddelton, Hannah Guntrip and Leah Garratt, raising their cups to toast to the successful opening of the cafe.

**Science funding boost for schools**

SCHOOL pupils are set to benefit from better science facilities than some universities after a windfall from the Wolfson Foundation.

Moreton Hall School in Weston Rhyn, took delivery of the first piece of equipment this week.

The Wolfson Foundation, which gives grants to support medical and science education, awarded the money after hearing the school's vision of a unique medical science facility which would also serve other schools in the community.

Coordinator of the project, Dr David Kelly, said: "This equipment will allow us to kit out our medical science faculty to a higher specification than some start-up research groups in a number of teaching universities."

"It really is an extraordinary opportunity for Moreton Hall and the state schools in our local area."

Moreton students have also set up a Medical Science Society, which has a number of top scientists on its steering committee. The society hosts lectures by speakers from around the globe.

School principal Jonathan Forster, said: "We have high expectations for the future of women in science at Moreton Hall. But part of that vision is to also open our doors to inspired young scientists from the local community."

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## Mercedes-Benz

## Mercedes Classy C-Class

By David Banner

**How can it be that the car that Mercedes-Benz calls its best selling model has, for so long, felt a bit of an under-achiever?**

The C-Class ought to have been all that the company knows about luxury saloons distilled into a smaller form, but for many years it was instead a car that was short on quality and long on price tag. The 2007 model repaired much of its reputation and the subsequent 2011 facelift brought even more features and better efficiency, but in this country, the C-Class always lagged a distant third in the compact executive sales charts behind the BMW 3 Series and the Audi A4.

Much has changed in the interim though. The introduction of a smaller four-door saloon, the CLA, has allowed the C-Class to become a bit bigger and a good deal more luxurious. The latest car is a fresh design from the ground up and it shows.

## Refinement

The C-Class has for some time been, and will continue to be, focused on comfort and refinement. To that end, it's the first car in its class to offer air suspension. This comes with an AGILITY SELECT switch that allows the driver to select between Comfort, ECO, Sport, Sport+ and Individual settings. Even if you stick with the standard steel springs, the front suspension has been greatly improved with a very clever four-link setup that isolates the struts, allowing for optimised geometry and better grip.

The engines include a 2.1-litre C200 BlueTEC diesel, 170PS, and two petrol options, the 156PS 1.6-litre C180 entry-level version and the 184PS 1.9-litre C200. The C300 BlueTEC HYBRID combines a four-cylinder 204PS diesel engine with a compact 27PS electric motor and looks interesting, as does the prospect of a plug-in hybrid model. In the here and now, there's a choice of two six-speed manual transmissions or an improved version of the 7G-

TRONIC automatic gearbox. The electromechanical Direct Steer system is also fitted as standard.

Looking at the exterior of this C-Class, you'd be forgiven for thinking that this was the most conservative of styling directions. Any notionally car-literate person would be able to tell you it was a Mercedes C-Class, even if they'd never clapped eyes on the thing before. It's tidily executed, with hints of the latest S-Class in its detailing. Halogen headlamps are fitted as standard, but there are also two LED options offered: a static system and a dynamic version with an 'LED Intelligent Light System'.

Drop inside and you'll see where this Mercedes differentiates itself. It's radically different to its predecessor with a broad centre console swooping between the front occupants. In automatic vehicles, a large one-piece centre console panel performs an elegant sweep from the centre air vents to the armrest.

## Ergonomic

On vehicles with manual transmission, the centre console is slightly steeper and features two separate trim elements in order to create ample space for ergonomic operation of the shift lever.

There's also a free-standing 7-inch central display – unless you opt for the ritzy COMAND Online package, in which case an 8.4-inch item is specified.

Materials quality is much improved and there are some slick details like the five metallic round air vents and the touchpad in the hand rest over the Controller on the centre tunnel. There's even a head-up display option. An extra 80mm in the wheelbase helps rear seats space and there's a best in class 480-litres of boot space too.

To gain an insight into quite how deep the thought process behind the new C-Class is, consider this. The air conditioning system talks to the car's satellite navigation system. When you enter a tunnel, rather than start sucking diesel fumes into the cabin from that labouring artie, the car knows it's entering a tunnel and automatically switches the air conditioning to recirculate, bringing in fresh air only when you've emerged again. That's smart. As



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**The C-Class has for some time been, and will continue to be, focused on comfort and refinement**

.....

indeed is the Collision Prevention Assist Plus system. When a danger of collision persists and the driver fails to respond, the system is able to carry out autonomous braking at speeds of up to 125mph, thereby reducing the severity of collisions with slower or stopping vehicles. The system also brakes in response to stationary vehicles at a speed of up to 31mph, and is able to prevent rear-end collisions at speeds of up to 25mph.

Each C-Class gets pelvic airbags for driver and front passenger as well as window bags, sidebags for the outer rear seats and a kneebag for the driver. The front passenger seat can also be fitted with automatic child seat recognition, which deactivates the airbag when a child seat is fitted and reactivates it once it has been removed.

It doesn't take long to see how Mercedes has forged ahead with efficiency. Where the last C220 diesel emitted 117g/km of carbon dioxide, the latest model trims that down to just 103g/km, with fuel economy improving from 64.2mpg to 70.6mpg; a

quite remarkable number to be associated with an executive car. Even the entry-level petrol model, the C180, gets numbers that not so long ago would have been very respectable indeed for a diesel car in this sector: think 56.5mpg and 166g/km.

Is this Mercedes C-Class good enough to score conquest sales from its key competitors? Only a positive answer will do for Mercedes. This car can't just continue on the previous model's form line, not in the UK at least. The fact that it's more of a C-Class than ever before, more imbued with traditional Mercedes qualities, perhaps hints at the fact that it's a slightly insular concept, lacking the dynamism or self-confidence to encroach on the strengths of its rivals.

Being bigger and more luxurious are easy things for Mercedes to do. Doing so while being more economical isn't so straightforward and it's here that the C-Class gives a hint of its mettle.

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Mercedes-Benz

Official government fuel consumption figures in mpg (litres per 100km) for the B-Class range: urban 30.1(9.4)-42.2(6.7), extra urban 44.1(6.4)-64.2(4.4), combined 37.7(7.5)-54.3(5.2) CO2. Emissions: 177-136 g/km. Official government fuel consumption figures in mpg (litres per 100km) for the SLK-Class range: urban 28.5(9.9)-32.8(8.6), extra urban 51.4(5.5)-53.3(5.3), combined 39.8(7.1)-43.5(6.5). CO2 emissions: 167-151 g/km.

\*\*3 years free servicing only as per the Mercedes-Benz Service Care Package available on Mercedes-Benz retail sales on vehicles ordered and registered before 31.03.2014. \*Annual mileage for the B 180 Sport is 10,000 miles. †Annual mileage for the SLK 250 CDI AMG Sport is 10,000 miles. Credit Acceptance Fee payable with first payment. Quotations for the B 180 Sport are based on a 3 year PCP at 10,000 miles per annum and quotations for the SLK 250 CDI AMG Sport are based on a 2 year PCP at 10,000 miles per annum. All quotations are subject to approval and vehicles must be ordered between 01.01.2014 and 31.03.2014 and registered before 30.06.2014, subject to availability. Excess mileage charges apply. All finance examples are subject to the acceptance and purchase fees. Finance available from Mercedes-Benz Financial Services UK Ltd, MK15 8BA. Model images shown for demonstration purposes only. Finance subject to status. Guarantees and indemnities may be required.



## Greenhous

## Support for local businesses



## Service team strengthened as Nissan grows stronger

As the Nissan product range grows ever stronger after the release of the award winning second-generation Qashqai, the service team at Greenhous are following suit.

With a number of new appointments along with the re-launch of a collect and deliver facility, the team at Greenhous have undergone a restructure. The service team who look after Nissan, Renault and Dacia at Featherbed Lane in Shrewsbury have employed two new service advisors and a technician. There have also been role changes on the front desk as well as promotions in the workshop.

Jonathan Cole and Andrew Evans are the latest additions to the team and have taken on service advisor positions. Both have experience in these roles but only joined the Greenhous family at the begin-

ning of this month. Tina Stevenson who has been with the company for 18 months, previously worked on reception at Telford and has now made the switch over to the Shrewsbury service desk as an advisor. Clare Crompton who is the senior service advisor for Renault is now also looking after the Nissan branch.

There have also been changes in the workshop as Ed Poole has been promoted from senior to master technician after completing his courses. Tom Tudor who started his career at Greenhous as an apprentice, has now enrolled in his senior technician training and Robert Pritchard who was taken on as a new technician for Renault recently, is also due to start his senior technician training.

John Steele, service manager at Greenhous Shrewsbury, said "We are thrilled with the restructuring of our service team. This has not only strengthened

what we have to offer, but also means we can re-introduce our collect and deliver facility now that we have enough staff.

"The collect and deliver scheme runs throughout the group and means that after the customer brings their vehicle in for a service, we can either drop them back off at home or provide them with a courtesy car. Alternately, we can collect the vehicle from the customer's house and drop it off after making the whole process completely hassle free."

"It is great to have our team at full strength. Our front desk has now increased from three to five people ensuring customers receive the best possible service. We have also seen our workshop grow as well as develop professionally. I am proud of Ed reaching his master technician status and I am sure that both Tom and Robert will match his achievements.

## Greenhous Vauxhall has continued support of local businesses by offering Small Fleet Solutions, available on both cars and commercial vehicles.

The largest Vauxhall dealer in the county has teamed up with Shrewsbury based Morris Property to up-date their fleet with a new Vivaro and Combo.

The scheme is aimed at businesses that operate with less than 25 vehicles, whether this is cars, vans or a mixture of both. The unique and integrated package is designed to support companies running small fleets with one of the widest choices of award winning eco-friendly cars and commercial vehicles.

Ben Esp, commercial specialist at Greenhous Vauxhall Telford, believes the scheme is the best way for businesses to build their fleets. "The idea of the Small Fleet Solutions Scheme is to ensure that companies with a low number of fleet vehicles are getting the best deals to match those with large fleets.

"We have noticed an increase in businesses that want to change and up-date their commercial vehicles recently. With the economy growing at its strongest rate since 2007, this is a real contrast to the customer behaviour we have seen in the past few years."

Alongside Small Fleet Solutions, Greenhous are also offering the Astravan Loyalty Scheme. This was introduced by Vauxhall after the Astravan ceased production and means current Astravan owners can receive an additional £750 discount on New Combo orders without having to trade their Astravan in.

Ben continued "Morris Property took advantage of the Astravan Loyalty that Vauxhall are now offering. Alongside a new Vivaro, they have also added a brand new Combo to their fleet without having to let go of their Astravan."

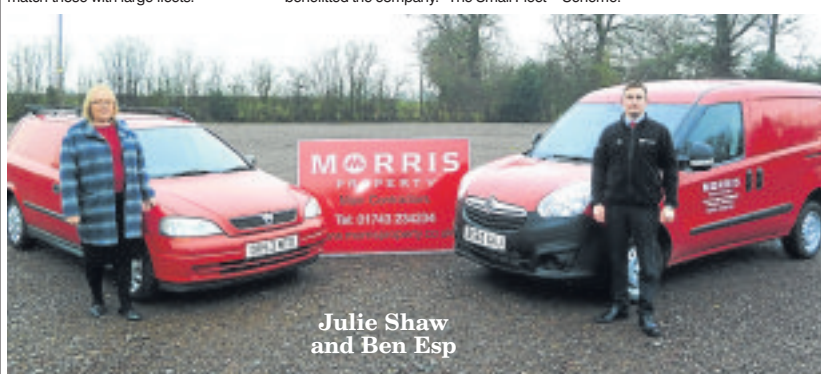
Morris Property based in Shrewsbury, have over 100 years' heritage of building, restoring and leasing property. Julie Shaw from Morris Property thinks the deal has benefitted the company. "The Small Fleet

Solutions scheme is great for a business like us. Having only a small fleet, we still wanted to get a good deal on our vehicles and by taking advantage of the Astravan Loyalty scheme, we did just that.

"Being able to keep our Astravan while getting a great discount on the Combo and Vivaro means that we have been able to grow our fleet without spending too much. Working with Greenhous has made the whole process incredibly easy and knowing that they are there for our servicing needs gives us real peace of mind."

Ben concluded "We are fully focussed on the needs of smaller fleets and are qualified to deliver specialist knowledge and the advice that each individual business needs. Not only can we provide great offers on brand new vehicles, but we can also help with the disposal of old vans with part exchange deals.

"Working with Morris Property has been a pleasure and it is great to see them benefitting from the Loyalty Scheme."



Julie Shaw and Ben Esp

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# T J Vickers

## Swift Sport leading the way for successful 2014

**Suzuki is looking forward to more success this year after scooping a top award already for 2014.**

In the What Car? Magazine awards last month, the Swift Sport model was awarded a 'Best Buy' accolade for the third consecutive year. The performance flagship of the Swift range was judged by the editorial team against strong competition and the final vote resulted in it again receiving the 'Best Buy Hot hatch for less than £15,000'.

With an even higher standard specification for 2014 which includes satellite navigation and DAB radio, Swift Sport still remains a lot less than £15,000 at £13,999 for three-door and £14,499 for the five-door model, introduced in 2013.

Swift Sport is available in a choice of four standard metallic paint finishes and

is equipped with seven airbags, auto air conditioning, cruise control, rear privacy glass and 17-inch alloy wheels. In addition to standard satellite navigation and DAB radio, the Sport also has voice recognition, USB and SD connection and Bluetooth music streaming which is also compatible with iPod/iPhone.

Chas Hallett, What Car? Editor in chief said: "The Suzuki Swift Sport might be based on an average small car, but this version's rev-happy engine and sharp handling means it's far from an average hot hatch. What will delight most is the body control and grip on offer, the Swift outshines more expensive rivals, giving you plenty of confidence to wring out the engine through a series of bends. The three-door will be enough for most buyers and we think it's still the best affordable hot hatch you can buy."

The Swift Sport's 1.6-litre engine has

a maximum output of 136PS at 7,000rpm and is achieved through optimisation of the intake VVT (Variable Valve Timing) and increased valve lift.

The engine's high output is combined with excellent fuel economy of 44.1mpg on the EC Combined Cycle; CO2 emissions are 147g/km and a bespoke exhaust system yields a sporty note. The Sport is fitted with a six speed manual transmission as standard.

The Sport is proving very popular with customers, achieving well over 110 per cent of sales target in 2013. To help widen the market as well as assist younger buyers aspiring to own one, Suzuki has included it in its latest PCP (Personal Contract Purchase) offers with a special low deposit of £2,313 required followed by 42 monthly payments of £219 and an optional final payment of £4,815 for the three door model.



## Special edition marks 30 years of Fiat Panda 4x4

**Fiat is celebrating 30 years and 500,000 sales of its iconic all-wheel drive city car with the special edition Fiat Panda 4x4 Antarctica.**

Designed to stand out from the crowd, the Antarctica is only available in white with a black roof, orange detailing, diamond-finish 15-inch alloy wheels and special badges.

Inside, the Fiat Panda 4x4 Antarctica features grey and orange upholstery with numerous additional standard features such as dark-tinted rear privacy glass, a height adjustable driver's seat and three-passenger rear seat with 60:40 split/folding backrests. As with all examples of the FIAT Panda 4x4 sold in the UK, the Antarctica edition also features air conditioning, ESC stability control, an electronic locking differential

(ELD), specially tuned suspension, mud-and-snow tyres and rugged body-work protection all as standard.

Powered either by Fiat's award-winning 85hp 0.9 TwinAir petrol engine or a 75hp 1.3-litre MultiJet II turbo diesel engine, the Fiat Panda 4x4 Antarctica offers a unique combination of exceptionally low running costs and genuine off-road capability which is unmatched by any competitor vehicle.

Just 300 examples of the Fiat Panda 4x4 Antarctica will be built for the UK market priced from £14,895 on-the-road.

Meanwhile demand for the standard Fiat Panda 4x4, recently named '2014 Mini 4x4' by the UK's off-road enthusiast publication, 4x4 Magazine, and Top Gear magazine's SUV of the Year 2012, has been so strong that a waiting list has developed. Customers who order

now could expect delivery of their new Fiat Panda 4x4 in March 2014, in time for the new '14' registration plate. In the interim, the exciting new limited edition Fiat Panda 4x4 Antarctica will be available to help satisfy this demand.

Elena Bernardelli, marketing director Fiat Group Automobiles UK, commented: "Not only has the Fiat Panda 4x4 been a huge success all over Europe for the past 30 years, it's in huge demand in the UK too. British buyers really appreciate its nimbleness and efficiency, combined with its immense all-weather capability, all wrapped up in a distinctive and unmistakably Italian package. The new Panda 4x4 Antarctica - with its extra equipment, unique styling features and strictly limited numbers - should prove even more appealing so potential buyers will need to be quick to snap one up this winter!"



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## Budgen Motors

# 3008 Crossing the tracks

By David Banner

**The Peugeot 3008 Crossover has improved in looks and content, while offering even lower prices. You have to really want a car of this kind to really appreciate it but if you do, then you'll probably love this one.**

So what exactly is Peugeot's 3008? It looks vaguely like a small 4x4, but there's no conventional all-wheel drive system. A 5-seat MPV then? Wrong again. Check that raised SUV-style driving position. A closer definition is as a family hatchback with added versatility and serious attitude, a class of car the industry now calls a 'crossover' and was first popularised by Nissan's Qashqai.

Unlike that Nissan, this Peugeot offers neither 4WD or 7 seats as an option but compensates with a special Grip Control system and a super-flexible interior. Enough of its own car then, to build a loyal following. Now it's had a quite extensive overhaul,

Peugeot updating the styling to make it a good deal more handsome at the same time as improving efficiency, building in higher equipment levels and reducing prices.

The engine line up is strong, with some of Peugeot's better and more ingenious powerplants. The most interesting remains the 3008 HYbrid4, which features a 2.0-litre 163bhp diesel engine driving the front wheels, with a 37bhp electric motor powering the rear wheels. The result is a car which can be powered emissions-free in town, or via the diesel engine on a fuel-conserving long run. When conditions are slippery or when in sports mode, power goes to all four wheels for a total output of 200bhp with the diesel engine and the electric motor working at the same time to give maximum acceleration when needed, for instance when overtaking. It's no off-roader though.

## Boosted

Otherwise the range is front wheel drive, with 2.0-litre and 1.6-litre HDi diesels plus 1.6-litre VTi and THP petrols. There's no four-wheel-drive option with the standard 3008. Instead, Peugeot claims to have boosted the car's 'outdoor' abilities by including a special Grip Control traction control system. It has five operating modes, each designed to optimise traction on a particular surface.

The 3008 remains eminently practical, featuring a split tailgate, a three-position boot floor and four securing rings for attaching a luggage net. The Easy Flat rear bench seat can be folded in a single movement using buttons located in the boot or at the top of the seat back. At the front, the passenger seat folds completely flat for transporting even longer loads. Numerous storage compartments around the cabin give total space of nearly 50-litres. The boot is good for 512-litres, growing to 1,604-litres if you fold the seats.

Prices start at around £17,000 for a 1.6-litre petrol model, with diesels opening at just under £19,000, while Hybrid4s look a bit conspicuous at over £27,000. Trim levels have been improved in order to offer better value for money across the three trim



Crossover models like this might be the automotive equivalent of sitting on the fence but they do offer an attractive combination

levels of Access, Active and Allure. Bluetooth connectivity for smartphone and music players is now included on every 3008, while electric folding door mirrors have been added to Active models. The Peugeot Connect Navigation and reversing camera system is standard on Allure.

Rather than increasing in price, the latest Peugeot 3008 has actually had a bit of a haircut there, with on the road asking figures having been shaved by £650 for the entry level car. From a safety perspective, the 3008 makes sense with plenty of airbags, ESP and ABS standard throughout the range. In truth, the whole line-up provides plenty enough bang for your buck, with none of the models under-specified.

So-called crossover models like this might be the automotive equivalent of sitting on the fence but they do offer an attractive combination of many of the kind of qualities that a significant number of today's family buyers are looking for.

If you're one of those people, uncertain whether to plump for the high driving position and chunky

looks of an SUV 4x4 or the handling composure and fuel economy of a family hatchback, then try one of these first. For once, getting cross could just get you exactly what you want.

If the 3008 isn't right for you, Budgen Motors Peugeot also have a wide selection of great offers available across the Peugeot range, including up to £5,000 discount on selected models across the new car range.

The All NEW Peugeot 308 benefits from a £500 deposit contribution from the manufacturer and is also available on a low rate 2.9 per cent APR package. The 208 range also benefits from a £500 deposit contribution and a low rate of 5.9 per cent APR. Don't forget the majority of the Peugeot range is also available on the, exclusive to Peugeot, 'Just Add Fuel' scheme... Making motoring more affordable.

If a new car isn't what you're looking for then we also have a selection of 200+ quality used cars available, you can see these models on the Budgen Motors website [www.budgenmotors.co.uk](http://www.budgenmotors.co.uk)



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Official Government fuel consumption figures (Range): Urban cycle, Extra urban, Combined (litres per 100km/mpg) & CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (g/km); Highest: New Citroën C3 VTi 120 automatic Exclusive 9.3/30.4, 4.9/57.6, 6.5/43.5, 150. Lowest: New Citroën C3 e-HDi 70 Airdream EGS VTR+ 3.6/78.5, 3.2/88.3, 3.4/83.1, 87. MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions.



## Faintree Garage

# Spaceback The vinyl frontier

By Ian Donaldson

**Skoda's ordinary Rapid may be a five-door hatch but it's not a very conventional one.**

Potential buyers uncomfortable with that will be far happier with this Spaceback variant. Though a little smaller than its stablemate, it's certainly more stylish and at last gives this Czech brand a really credible contender in this important sector.

We like to think of Skoda as a company that sticks to convention, that thinks in straight lines and appeals to those who don't feel comfortable diverging too far from the norm. It isn't always true. While there are certainly some deeply traditional models in the Skoda line-up, more than a few of its products nudge left field quite cheekily, refusing to conventionally compete in the markets you'd expect them to.

Take the family hatch sector. The Octavia never quite fitted in as a real Golf/Astra/Focus rival. It just

wasn't the right shape and never had the same appeal. That model grew in size and the Rapid as slotted in beneath it. Despite offering a hatchback, the Rapid felt like the Octavia experience all over again. In other words, it didn't directly go head-to-head with the mainstream family hatches. Was this by accident or design on Skoda's part. The masterplan became clear with the launch of the Rapid Spaceback, a car with a more familiar silhouette.

The Rapid Spaceback runs on a similar platform to the Rapid hatch, so there aren't any great surprises regarding the way it drives. That means you get what looks like a fairly rudimentary chassis set-up with a simple strut front suspension and a torsion beam rear end. The chassis is a interesting though, using a front end that's been modified from the VW Polo, while the rear chassis structure and suspension are identical to that which props up the posterior of the VW Beetle. It's similar to the Rapid hatch and shares its 2602mm wheelbase but measures 180mm shorter due to a reduced rear overhang.

### Pulling

Skoda offers two diesel and three petrol engines, with the entry-level powerplant in the range being a 1.2-litre three-cylinder petrol unit that packs 86PS but is also offered in 105PS form if you want a little more mulling power.

Alternatively, there's a seven-speed DSG auto-gearbox 122PS 1.4-litre TSI at the top of the range that looks a little redundant but which is the only car in the range that can crack 10 seconds to 60mph. The 1.6-litre turbodiesel versions come in 90 or 105PS guises, with a seven-speed DSG gearbox an alternative to the standard manual five-speeder in the lower-powered variant.

The Spaceback's bodywork is new from the B-pillars back and it's a crisp piece of design work. The rear end features neat triangular insets either side of the number plate holder and if you choose the optional panoramic glass roof, it then combines neatly with a 'prolong' tinted rear screen for a contrasting look that works best on pale coloured cars.



**Touch many of the cabin plastics and they're rather hard and scratchy, but it looks well built**

The Rapid hatch already had a huge luggage capacity, so losing a bit of that for the sake of a perter rear end doesn't exactly mean you'll have to travel light. This goes down from 550 to 415-litres, although rear passenger space hasn't been affected. The luggage bay can be specified with a double floor to ensure that valuables are kept out of sight. Fold the 60/40 split rear seats and you get up to 1,380-litres of luggage capacity (down from 1490-litres in the standard Rapid).

The interior is unconventional in its own way. There are any number of rivals that have tried to up the quality of the materials used but still haven't got the hang of an elegant and classy look. The Rapid family is the opposite. Touch many of the cabin plastics and they're rather hard and scratchy, but it looks well built. It looks elegant. It looks, above all else, as if it's not trying too hard.

Rapid Spaceback pricing sits in the £14,500 to £19,000 bracket, so you are looking at a modest premium of just over £600 more than a standard Rapid model although you do get slightly more equipment

thrown in to compensate. There's a choice of three trim levels and buyers choose between 1.2 and 1.4-litre TSI petrol engines and a couple of versions of the familiar 1.6-litre TDI diesel.

Standard specifications see air conditioning as standard across the line-up, along with curtain airbags, front electric windows and a height and reach adjustable steering column. The three year/60,000 mile warranty isn't the most generous but with insurance groupings which will probably start at a mere Group 7, this is a car that isn't going to stretch too many family budgets.

The Rapid Spaceback might at first seem an answer to a problem entirely of Skoda's own making. People are comfortable with conventional hatchback shapes. Challenge them with something a bit different and it often becomes a niche seller or worse, ignored altogether. The Rapid hatchback is a good car but it's different, refusing to fit neatly into the pre-defined categories many buyers expect. In contrast, this Spaceback version will be a much easier sell.



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<b>Major service</b> Every 24 months or 20,000 miles	
All models	<b>£249</b>

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Fabia	<b>£189</b>
Other models (not Fabia or vRS)	<b>£209</b>
Fabia vRS / Octavia vRS	<b>£249</b>

<b>Front or rear brake pads</b>	
All models	<b>£99</b>

<b>Rear brake pads &amp; discs</b>	
All models	<b>£189</b>

<b>Brake fluid change</b>	
All models	<b>£45</b>

<b>Cambelt change*</b>	
Fabia	<b>£299</b>
All other models	<b>£349</b>
Plus replacement water pump, if required	<b>£100</b>

<b>Winter Check</b>	
Includes screen wash, scraper and de-icer	<b>£30</b>

People and prices... well worth knowing



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# Property

YOUR WEEKLY GUIDE TO HOME BUYING AND LETTING



## Period cottage comes with land and stabling

Orchryffordd at Cefn Coch, Llanrhaeadr-Ym-Mochnant, near Oswestry, is an extended detached stone cottage that mixes period character with contemporary style. With a refitted bathroom and en-suite, it is on sale with Parry Lowarch at £395,000. It has an entrance hall, open plan sitting room/dining room leading into the kitchen, a snug with inglenook fireplace, a small study,

utility room, downstairs cloakroom, master bedroom with en-suite shower room, two further double bedrooms, a family bathroom and a second staircase leading to a further double bedroom.

The property is situated in gardens and grounds of about 3.3 acres with a range of outbuildings including a timber stable block with five loose boxes, a tack room and store,

a double car port and adjoining workshop. The property has oil-fired central heating and recently installed hardwood double glazing. The home has lovely open views over surrounding hills and countryside, and lies around a mile from the centre of Llanrhaeadr, with Oswestry being around 12 miles away. Call Parry Lowarch on 01743 343343 or visit [www.parrylowarch.co.uk](http://www.parrylowarch.co.uk) for details.



## Four-bed detached property overlooks open countryside

Backing on to open countryside, Wellfield, Dovaston, near Kinnerley, is a spacious four-bedroom detached property with a superb open plan kitchen/family room forming the hub of the home.

It also has an entrance hall, cloaks/wc, lounge with woodburner, a study and a utility. Upstairs are four bedrooms, one ensuite, and a family bathroom. There is a garage, car port, covered patio area and garden adjoining open fields.

The property is for sale at a guide price of £380,000. Call Balfours on 01743 353511 or visit [www.balfours.co.uk](http://www.balfours.co.uk) to find out more.



## Renovated family home in centre of desirable village

An attractive period property in the centre of Gobowen is on the market with Bowen Son & Watson at a guide price of £249,995. Temperance House, The Cross, has been extensively renovated by the current owners to create an excellent family home with a host of original features.

With gas central heating, the spacious accommodation includes an entrance hall, cellar, lounge, family room, study, dining room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility, cloakroom, four bedrooms, one en-suite, and a family bathroom. There is a good-sized rear garden to the rear and ample off-road parking to the front. Call Bowen Son & Watson on 01691 652367 to find out more.

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# Halls

**NEW** **NO CHAIN**



Dating back to the late 1800's this three bedroom semi detached property must be viewed to be appreciated. Gas fired central heating and benefits from UPVC double glazing.

- Entrance Porch, Reception Hall
- Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen, Three Bedrooms
- Bathroom, Rear Yard with Store
- On Street Parking
- Current EPC Rating D

**Caer Road, Oswestry**  
Price: £99,950

**Contact Oswestry**

**NEW**



Arguably, enjoying the most imposing position within this most sought after location and situated at the head of a quiet cul de sac. Offering a spacious and adaptable accommodation and set in a generous sized plot with woodland to the boundary. This property has been well looked after by the current owners and the accommodation is immaculate. Current EPC Rating C.

**Woodlands Park, Oswestry**  
Price: £399,950

**Contact Oswestry**

**NEW**



The property offers extremely well designed and well proportioned internal accommodation located in a sought after village location.

- 5 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 3 Reception Rooms
- DG & Gas CH
- Summer House
- Detached Garage & Parking
- Superb Rear Lawned Gardens
- Current EPC Rating C

**Boot Street, Whittington**  
Price: Offers over £345,000

**Contact Oswestry**

**NEW**



A detached family home located in a most picturesque rural location near to the small village of Llanfihangel. This property benefits from superb views of the surrounding rolling countryside which is a notable feature.

- Three Reception Rooms
- Kitchen, WC/Utility
- Four Bedrooms
- Approx. 2.25 acres
- 2 acres by separate negotiation
- Current EPC Rating F

**Llanfihangel, Powys**  
Price: £330,000

**Contact Oswestry**

**NEW**



Set in flat grounds extending to approximately 2.5 acres a well proportioned detached cottage property, in a delightful rural location with magnificent views of the surrounding countryside.

- Kitchen Breakfast Room
- Pantry Area, Shower Room
- Sitting Room, Dining Room
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Stores/Workshops
- Various Outbuildings

**Llanrhaeadr, Powys**  
Price: £299,950

**Contact Oswestry**

**NEW** **NO CHAIN**



This two double bedroom end of terrace cottage is tucked away within this popular village, only a short walk from the bus stop and village amenities. UPVC double glazing and gas fired central heating.

- Two Reception Rooms
- Master Bedroom & En-Suite
- Bedroom Two, Shower Room
- Two Parking, Garden
- Current EPC Rating D

**Vine Cottages, Weston Rhyn**  
Price: £135,000

**Contact Oswestry**

**NEW**



A well presented five bedroom detached family home situated in a most popular semi rural location. This property could provide a family home with a one bedroom annex or a substantial family residence. (Lower Landing Accommodation could provide self contained accommodation (subject to permissions)).

- Five Bedrooms
- Current EPC Rating D

**Gibraltar Lane, Treflach**  
Price: £330,000

**Contact Oswestry**



A fine example of a detached country residence situated in a most sought after rural location. Countryside walks are abundant and the property offers spacious adaptable accommodation.

- 4 Double Bedrooms
- 4 Reception Rooms
- Double Garage & Ample Parking
- Mature South Facing Gardens
- Viewing Recommended
- Current EPC Rating E

**Golden Grove, Treflach**  
Price: £425,000

**Contact Oswestry**



This detached family home offers spacious accommodation with detached barn and 6.1 acres of pasture land. Situated down a quiet country lane with superb views.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- 2 Reception Rooms
- 2 Conservatories
- Detached Barn 346 Sq Metres
- Solar Panels
- Current EPC Rating C

**Belan, Llanfyllin**  
Price: £375,000

**Contact Oswestry**



Situated in a most sought after rural location this spacious detached property must be viewed to be appreciated. The property has been extended and now provides two living quarters.

- 5 Bedroom
- Superb Kitchen Family Room
- Dating Back to Late 1800s
- Substantial Property
- Views To All Elevations
- Current EPC Rating E

**Tedsmore Road, West Felton**  
Price: £499,950

**Contact Oswestry**



A spacious individual 4 bedroom barn conversion in grounds extending to approx 1.8 acres. Situated in a most convenient location with excellent commuter links.

- 4 Bedrooms
- 2/3 Reception Rooms
- Detached Outbuilding
- Garage & Parking
- Approx 1.8 Acres
- Current EPC Rating C

**Harlan House, Nr Weston Rhyn**  
Price: £450,000

**Contact Oswestry**



A fine example of a traditional Victorian home which has undergone an extensive scheme of improvement by the current vendors.

- 2 Reception Rooms, Kitchen, Utility / Side Entrance Hall,
- Ground Floor Shower Room / Cloakroom, Bedroom / Playroom
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Annex / Back Kitchen, Lounge, Recessed Bedroom Area
- Garage, Garage Attic Room, Outdoor Dining Area, Workshop
- Current EPC Rating D

**Victoria Road, Oswestry**  
Price: Offers in Region of £270,000

**Contact Oswestry**



Located centrally within this most popular village opposite the Church with lovely countryside walks on the door step yet within commutable distance to the local towns.

- 4 Bedrooms
- 3 Reception Rooms
- Countryside Walks
- Oil Central Heating
- Character Features
- Current EPC Rating F

**Peach Tree House, Monfa, Llansilin**  
Price: £159,999

**Contact Oswestry**



A most well presented three bedroom semi detached property situated in a cul-de-sac position in the popular village of Gobowen.

- 3 Bedroom (Master En-Suite)
- Gas Central Heating
- UPVC Double Glazing
- Gardens To Front & Rear
- Parking For 3 Vehicles
- Current EPC Rating C

**Trinity Close, Gobowen**  
Price: £149,950

**Contact Oswestry**

**NO CHAIN**



A BRAND NEW detached executive family home situated in a sought after and popular residential area of Oswestry town. Within a few minutes from Oswestry Town Centre and a short drive from lovely countryside walks.

- NHBC Guarantee
- Views over Oswestry Town
- Three Reception Rooms
- Double Garage
- Immaculate Accommodation

**Mount Rise, Oswestry**  
Price: £379,950

**Contact Oswestry**



An immaculate detached three bedroom family home situated on a corner plot offering two reception rooms and lovely conservatory. The property is located within a quiet cul de sac location within a popular village. Gas Central Heating & UPVC double glazing.

- Lounge, Study/Utility
- Dining Room, Conservatory
- Kitchen, Cloakroom
- Three Bedrooms
- Parking and Gardens
- Current EPC Rating D

**Meadow Way, Gobowen**  
Price: £169,950

**Contact Oswestry**



This immaculate detached four bedroom family home must be viewed to be appreciated. With views overlooking to fields and woodland in the distance, this property is situated in a popular quiet area.

- 4 Bedroom (Master & En-Suite)
- Gas CH & UPVC DG
- Gardens
- Garage & Parking
- 1 Mile From A483
- Current EPC Rating C

**Long Croft, Weston Rhyn**  
Price: £210,000

**Contact Oswestry**

**NO CHAIN**



This former Wesleyan Chapel is now a lovely family home offering two reception rooms, conservatory, breakfast kitchen, four bedrooms, bathroom & shower room.

- 4 Bedroom
- Carport & Parking
- Private Cottage Gardens
- Hot Tub
- Oil CH & DG
- Current EPC Rating E

**Wesley Cottage, Babbinswood**  
Price: £220,000

**Contact Oswestry**

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OIRO £379,950



**NEW**  
**Candy**  
3 BED DET COTTAGE  
2.5 ACERS (Approx)  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £369,950



**Welshpool**  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
3 RECEPTION ROOMS  
PERIOD FEATURES  
EPC RATING F  
OIRO £329,995



**Llansantffraid**  
4 BED DETACHED  
NO CHAIN  
EPC RATING D  
CAR PORT  
ASKING PRICE £325,000



**Morton**  
4 BED SEMI-DET BUNGALOW  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
PERIOD FEATURES  
EPC RATING G  
OIRO £299,950



**Porth-y-waen**  
3 BED DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
EQUINE FACILITIES  
EPC RATING F  
OIRO £299,950



**Treflach**  
3 BED DET HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
EN SUITE MASTER BEDROOM  
EPC RATING F  
OIRO £269,950



**NEW PRICE**  
**Oswestry**  
3 BED DETACHED HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £249,950



**Whittington**  
3 BED DETACHED BUNGALOW  
CONSERVATORY  
GAS CENTRAL HEATING  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £239,950



**Weston Rhyn**  
4 BED DETACHED HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
2 BATHROOMS  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £229,950



**Haughton**  
3/4 SEMI-DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £229,500



**Four Crosses**  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
EQUINE FACILITIES  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £225,000



**Oswestry**  
41 Oakhurst Road  
3 BED TERRACED HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
KITCHEN/DINER  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £224,950



**NEW**  
**Oswestry**  
4/5 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
NO CHAIN  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £199,950



**NEW**  
**Weston Rhyn Oswestry**  
3/4 BED DET HOUSE  
2/3 RECEPTION ROOMS  
CONSERVATORY  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £189,995



**Oswestry**  
51 Henley Drive  
4 BED DET HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
UTILITY  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £179,950



**Oswestry**  
66 Upper Church Street  
3 BED TOWN HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
KITCHEN/DINER  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £174,950



**Treflach**  
3 BED DET BUNGALOW  
NO CHAIN  
MOTIVATED SELLER  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £169,950



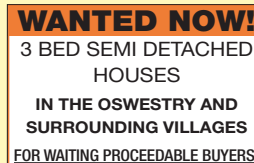
**NEW**  
**Oswestry**  
3 Henry Jones Road  
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
CONSERVATORY  
GAS CENTRAL HEATING  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £154,950



**Whittington**  
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
2 RECEPTION ROOMS  
PLANNING TO EXTEND  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £149,950



**WANTED NOW!**  
4 BED DETACHED  
HOUSES  
IN THE OSWESTRY AND  
SURROUNDING VILLAGES  
FOR WAITING PROCEEDABLE BUYERS!  
UP TO **£250,000**  
**FREE VALUATION**  
**NO OBLIGATION**



**WANTED NOW!**  
3 BED SEMI DETACHED  
HOUSES  
IN THE OSWESTRY AND  
SURROUNDING VILLAGES  
FOR WAITING PROCEEDABLE BUYERS!  
UP TO **£160,000**  
**FREE VALUATION**  
**NO OBLIGATION**



**Oswestry**  
15 Cae Melin Avenue  
3 BED TERRACED HOUSE  
LOUNGE/DINER  
TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £149,950



**Gobowen**  
8 Trinity Close  
3 BED SEMI-DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
EN-SUITE MASTER BEDROOM  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £144,950



**Oswestry**  
43 Aston Way  
2 BED MID BUNGALOW  
NO CHAIN  
CONSERVATORY  
EPC RATING D  
ASKING PRICE £139,950



**Whittington**  
49 Penybryn Avenue  
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
NO CHAIN  
MODERN KITCHEN  
EPC RATING C  
OIRO £137,500



**WANTED NOW!**  
2 BED BUNGALOWS  
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**NO OBLIGATION**



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**NEW**  
**Oswestry**  
2 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
KITCHEN/DINER  
OFF ROAD PARKING  
EPC RATING D  
OIRO £127,950



**NEW PRICE**  
**St Martins**  
3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE  
UTILITY/STORE ROOM  
FAMILY PARKING  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £119,950



**St Martins**  
2 New Terrace  
2 BED MID TERRACE  
NO CHAIN  
KITCHEN/DINER  
EPC RATING E  
OIRO £115,500



**Oswestry**  
49 & 49a Albert Road  
TWO ONE BED APARTMENTS  
NO CHAIN  
EPC RATING E  
INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITY  
OIRO £97,950



**NEW PRICE**  
**Oswestry**  
1 BED APARTMENT  
RETIREMENT PROPERTY  
EPC RATING B  
COMMUNAL GARDEN/LIVING ROOM  
OIRO £74,950



**NEW PRICE**  
**Gobowen**  
1 Meadowbrook Court  
1 BED SEMI-DET BUNGALOW  
LIVING/DINING ROOM  
CONSERVATORY  
EPC RATING D  
OFFERS OVER £69,950

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49 ALBERT ROAD, OSWESTRY. 1 BED FLAT.....	£300 PCM
23 YORK STREET, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACED HOUSE.....	£450 PCM
17 LORNE STREET, OSWESTRY. 2 BED TERRACED HOUSE.....	£450 PCM
42 HEATHER CLOSE, OSWESTRY. 2 BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE.....	£450 PCM
19 SCHOOL ROAD, WEST FELTON. 2 BED TERRACED HOUSE.....	£450 PCM
47 ABRAHAM COURT, OSWESTRY. 1 BED APARTMENT.....	£470 PCM
19 HERITAGE WAY, LLANYMYNECH. 4 BED SEMI DET HOUSE.....	£525 PCM
1 BEDFORD VILLAS, WHITTINGTON. 3 BED SEMI DET HOUSE.....	£595 PCM
11 MANDIR CLOSE, OSWESTRY. 3 BED TERRACED HOUSE.....	£595 PCM



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Tenancy  
Administration fee  
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**Bowen Son  
and Watson**

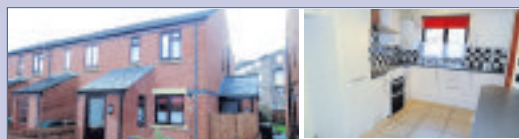
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**01691 652367****35 Bailey Street, Oswestry****Ellesmere 01691 622534****Chirk****01691 772443****Llangollen 01978 860346****Wrexham****01978 340000****NEW - PROPERTY WITH LAND****Cross Lanes  
St Martins £325,000**

- A rare opportunity to purchase a residential smallholding comprising of a 3/4 bedroom cottage
- Stables & outbuildings all standing in around 1.14 acres of gardens & paddocks
- The property is situated in an excellent rural location yet within walking distance of the popular village of St Martins
- Kitchen gardens, paddocks, stables, garages and outbuildings which have a host of future uses. EPC Rating E

**NEW****Oak Drive  
Oswestry £249,995**

- Superb 4 Bed Detached House
- Entrance Hall, Lounge, Dining Room
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility, Cloakroom
- 4 Beds, En-Suite, Family Bathroom
- Ample Off-Road Parking, Enclosed Rear Garden
- Double Glazing, Gas Central Heating, EPC Rating C

**NEW - NO CHAIN****Albert Mews  
Oswestry £109,995**

- Well appointed & well maintained 2 Bedroom End Terrace
- Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Living Room, Cloaks
- 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom. Gas central heating, double glazing
- Lawned garden with a paved patio to the rear
- The front garden is laid to gravel for ease of maintenance
- Off-road parking for 2 vehicles. EPC Rating D

**NEW****Park Terrace  
Oswestry £99,995**

- Deceptively spacious 2 Bedroom Mid-Terrace property in an excellent location
- Lounge, Kitchen/Dining Room, 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Gas fired central heating & timber D/G windows. EPC Rating D
- Front garden with decked seating area & 2 good size storage sheds to rear
- Should be of interest to 1st time buyers & investor purchasers

**NEW - NO CHAIN****Maes Beuno  
Berriew £119,995**

- Deceptively spacious 2 Bedroom End-Terrace set in a large corner plot
- Requires some modernisation, views over the Shropshire Union Canal
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen
- Utility, Storage Shed, 2 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- uPVC double glazing throughout. EPC Rating F

**NO CHAIN****The Cross  
Weston Rhyn £189,995**

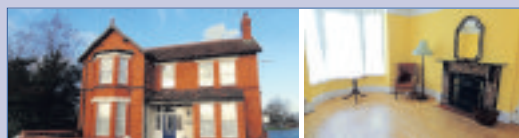
- A spacious 3 Bedroom End-Terrace Property
- Formerly the Doctor's Surgery dating back to the late 1800's
- Ent Hall, Lounge, Dining/Living Room, Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Cloakroom, Cellar, 2 Double Bedrooms, Wet Room
- Second Floor Master Suite with En-Suite Shower Room
- Excellent garden to rear with flowering beds & mature shrubs
- Double glazing and oil fired central heating. EPC Rating E

**NO CHAIN****West Place  
Gobowen £102,500**

- A spacious 3 Bedroom Mid-Terrace Property situated within an established residential area in the popular village of Gobowen
- Entrance Hall, Kitchen, Lounge/Dining Room, Conservatory, 3 Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Ample off-road parking and large rear garden
- Gas fired central heating and uPVC double glazing throughout. EPC Rating D
- The property should be of interest to first time purchasers or investment buyers

**Hampton Rise  
Oswestry £249,995**

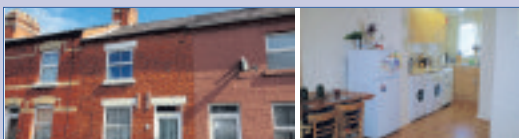
- Immaculately presented 3 Bedroom Detached Bungalow set in a corner plot
- 'L' shaped Lounge, Fitted Kitchen, Dining Room
- 3 Further Bedrooms and Family Bathroom with Wet Room area
- Landscaped gardens with raised terraced area, single garage & 2 driveways
- uPVC double glazing and gas fired central heating. EPC Rating D

**NO CHAIN****The Cross  
Gobowen £249,995**

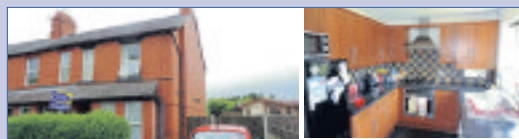
- Period Detached house extensively renovated by the current owners
- Entrance Hall, Cellar, Lounge, Family Room, Study, Dining Room
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room, Utility, Cloakroom, Master Bedroom (En-Suite)
- 3 further Bedrooms and Family Bathroom
- Good size garden to the rear and ample off-road parking to the front
- Gas fired central heating is installed. EPC Rating E

**NO CHAIN****Marsland Close  
St. Martins £159,995**

- A spacious Detached 3 Bedroom Bungalow in a quiet residential area
- Good sized private rear garden together with Garage and Carport
- Lounge, Kitchen, 3 Excellent Bedrms, Family Bathrm, Separate WC
- Oil fired central heating, uPVC D/G, fascia's and barges. EPC Rating E

**NEW PRICE - NO CHAIN****Albert Road  
Oswestry £89,950**

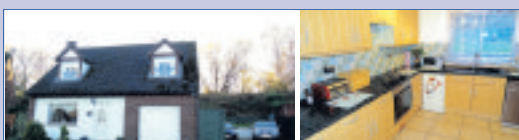
- A deceptively spacious two bedroom Mid-Terrace property situated within walking distance of the town centre of Oswestry
- An open plan Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, two Double Bedrooms and Bathroom
- Courtyard garden providing an ideal outdoor entertainment area together with a large storage shed
- Gas C/H and double glazing throughout. EPC Rating D

**NO CHAIN****Berwyn Villas  
Oswestry £99,995**

- A well presented end-of-terrace cottage style property
- Oak stripped flooring to the hall, lounge and dining room
- Entrance Hall, Through Lounge, Dining Area, Kitchen
- 2 Excellent Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Off-street parking and good size south facing rear garden
- Double glazing gas fired central heating EPC Rating E

**NO CHAIN****Cambrian Avenue  
Whittington £147,500**

- A most delightful spacious and extended Semi-Detached House
- Sitting Room, Snug, Kitchen, Landing, Two Bedrooms, Family Bathroom.
- Delightful gardens to the fore with ample parking for several cars
- Fully enclosed south facing rear garden and with views
- Gas fired central heating, Double Glazing, EPC Rating C

**Berlan Close  
Weston Rhyn £209,995**

- Superbly appointed Detached Family House
- Situated within walking distance of the centre of Weston Rhyn
- Entrance Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Cloakroom
- 4 Excellent Bedrooms and a Family Bathroom.
- Oil fired C/H, uPVC D/G & spacious gardens. EPC Rating D

**Bryn Y Castell  
Gobowen £249,995**

- A rare opportunity to purchase a spacious Detached Family Home
- The property was constructed in 2009 to the highest standards.
- Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge, Dining Room, Conservatory, Kitchen, Utility
- Integral Garage, Master Bedroom (en-suite), 3 further Bedrooms & Family Bathroom.
- The large rear garden has been extensively landscaped whilst there is a smaller garden & driveway to the front. D/G. Gas C/H. EPC Rating C

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**homes  
ON VIEW**



## RICHMOND HARVEY

### Balmoral Crescent, Oswestry



Tastefully improved by the present owner, 4/5 bedroom detached family house which enjoys a popular residential locality. The property briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Cloakroom, Playroom/Bedroom 5, Through Lounge/Dining Room, Conservatory, Attractive Kitchen, Utility, First Floor Landing, Master Bedroom Ensuite, Three Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, Gas Fired Central Heating, Majority PVC Double Glazing, Driveway providing ample off-street parking and Gardens. MUST BE SEEN. AWAITING EPC RATING

Offers in Region of £189,950

### Park Hall, Oswestry



Enjoying a highly sought after location within 'Park Hall', we are delighted to release this most exceptionally well appointed and spacious 4 bedroom detached family house which briefly comprises: Entrance Hall, Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Lounge with feature fireplace, Dining Room, Re-Fitted Kitchen, Utility, First Floor landing, Master Bedroom Ensuite, Three Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, PVC Double Glazing, Gas Fired Central Heating, Double Width Driveway, Garage, Studio and Gym, Gardens to front and rear. Viewing Fully Recommended. EPC RATING D

Offers in Region of £295,450



**Baytree Close, St Martins**  
4 bedroom detached : Porch, Reception Hall, Living Room, Playroom, Sun Room, Kitchen/Dining Room, Utility, Cloakroom, Master Bedroom Ensuite, Mezzanine, 3 Further Bedrooms, Family Bathroom, DG, Gas Fired Underfloor Heating, Driveway, Garage, Gardens. EPC RATING C.  
Offers in Region of £335,000



**Babbinswood**  
4 bedroom detached set in just under 2.75 acres: Entrance Hall, Shower Room, Study, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Conservatory, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Oil Fired CH, PVC Double Glazing, Brick Built Outbuilding, Long Driveway. EPC RATING E  
Offers in Region of £389,950



**Turners Lane, Llyncllys**  
3 bedroom split level house near to Llyncllys Common Nature Reserve and set in 0.5 acres or thereabouts of gardens. Accommodation: Entrance Porch, Reception Hall/Dining Room, Garden Room, Utility, Boiler Room, Oil Fired Central Heating, Workshop. EPC RATING D  
Offers Over £300,000



**Canal Road, Four Crosses**  
3 bedroom detached cottage: Entrance Porch, Entrance Hall, Spacious Living/Dining Room, Attractive Breakfast Kitchen, Utility, WC, 3 Bedrooms (Master Ensuite), Family Bathroom, Oil Fired CH, PVC Double Glazing, Gated Driveway, Gardens. No onward Chain. EPC RATING E  
Offers in Region of £299,950



**Holly Grange, Rhoswiel**  
4 bedroom detached family house with Gas Fired Central Heating, Double Glazing, Double Width Driveway, Double Garage and Neatly Landscaped Gardens. MUST BE SEEN. EPC RATING D.  
Offers in Region of £245,000



**Maes Myllin, Llanfyllin**  
Deceptively spacious two double bedroom modern detached bungalow which has the benefit of a detached double garage, most attractively landscaped gardens and rooftop views. Viewing Fully Recommended. EPC RATING C.  
Offers in Region of £220,000



**Hillside, Pant**  
4 bed detached with views over the village and Plain beyond: Reception Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, 1st Floor Landing, 4 Bedrooms, Shower Room, Oil Fired CH, PVC DG where stated, Parking and Terraced Gardens. Viewing Fully Recommended. EPC RATING E.  
Offers in Region of £220,000



**Four Crosses, Powys**  
A modern deceptively spacious 3 bedroom detached family home with; Oil Fired Central Heating, PVC Double Glazing, Driveway providing ample off-road parking/burning, Garage and Gardens. Internal Viewing Fully Recommended. EPC RATING E  
Offers in Region of £219,950



**Buckingham Cl, Oswestry**  
Two bedroom detached bungalow comprising: Entrance Hall, Lounge/Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, Two Double Bedrooms, Bathroom, Double Glazing, Gas Fired Central Heating, Driveway, Detached Garage and Gardens. Viewing Fully Recommended. EPC RATING D.  
Offers in Region of £163,500



**The Meadows, Gobowen**  
2 bedroom detached bungalow enjoying a pleasant cul-de-sac location and conveniently placed for local village amenities. Property comprises: Entrance Hall, Re-fitted Kitchen, Bathroom, Driveway providing ample off-street parking, carport and garage. Gardens front and rear. NO CHAIN. EPC RATING F.  
Offers in Region of £144,950



**Wern, Weston Rhyn**  
A4 bedroom character detached family residence built circular 1803 which offers a wealth of character features with a separate Detached Garage which lends itself to conversion into a self contained apartment subject to the necessary consents. The property enjoys delightful mature gardens and grounds. EPC RATING E.  
Offers in Region of £599,950



**Pool Quay, Nr Welshpool**  
A most delightfully situated three bedroom character attached barn conversion which was tastefully completed during 2003 together with a traditional attached former farm building with full planning permission (No M97071) EPC RATING D  
Price Guide £555,000



**Onnen Gardens, Trefonen**  
Modern 4 bedroom executive detached family house which enjoys a pleasant cul-de-sac location within the sought after village of Trefonen, with Double Glazing, Oil Fired Central Heating, Double Garage and Driveway, Gardens to front and rear. No Onward Chain. EPC RATING C  
Offers in Region of £319,950



**Pool Quay, Welshpool**  
3 bed character attached barn conversion which was tastefully completed during 2003. The property offers a wealth of character features and enjoys views over the countryside. The attached barn for conversion is available to purchase. EPC RATING D  
Price Guide £270,000



**Llanymynech**  
4 bedroom executive detached house which offers excellent family accommodation along with; Double Width Driveway, Garage and Neatly Landscaped Gardens. LPG central heating system via radiators where stated, Double Glazing where stated. Internal Viewing Fully Recommended. EPC RATING E  
Offers in Region of £245,000



**Greenhill Bank, Crifftins**  
4 bed detached house which enjoys a delightful rural position comprising: Porch, Entrance Hall, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Conservatory, Utility, WC, First Floor, 4 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Oil Fired CH, PVC DG, Driveway, Car Port and Gardens. EPC RATING C  
Offers in Region of £229,995



**Ball Lane, Maesbury**  
3 double bedroom detached riverside country home: Entrance Hall, Dining Room, Living Room, Kitchen, Utility, Bathroom, First Floor, 3 Double Bedrooms, Cloakroom, Oil Fired CH, PVC DG, Driveway, Garage and Gardens. EPC RATING E  
Offers in Region of £225,000



**Roft Street, Oswestry**  
3 bed Victorian town house sympathetically improved over the years by the present owners yet still retaining a wealth of character features within easy reach of the comprehensive range of local amenities the town has to offer. VIEWING FULLY RECOMMENDED. EPC RATING D.  
Offers in Region of £224,995



**Treflach, Nr Oswestry**  
2 double bedroom detached bungalow which enjoys a pleasant edge of village location with Oil Fired Central Heating, Double Glazing where stated, Driveway, Garage. Internal Viewing Fully Recommended. EPC RATING E  
Offers in Region of £219,950



**Whitridge Way, Trefonen**  
4 bed detached house: Entrance Porch, Reception Hall, Cloakroom, Study, Living Room, Dining Room, Kitchen, Utility, First Floor, Master Bedroom with Dressing Area & Ensuite, 3 Further Bedrooms, Bathroom, DG, Oil Fired CH, Double Driveway & Garage, Gardens. EPC RATING C  
Offers in Region of £285,000



**Valley View, Dolywern**  
Character four bed semi detached cottage which offers flexible accommodation and is offered for sale with No onward Chain with Oil Fired Central Heating, Rear Courtyard, Viewing Fully Recommended. EPC RATING E  
Offers in Region of £219,950



# TOWN & COUNTRY

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- The following fees are payable on all of our rental properties (unless otherwise stated):
- £50 per application per person to be named on the contract
- 1 month's rent as a damage deposit (held in a government scheme)
- 1 month's rent upfront
- £150 Administration fee.
- We put each applicant through a full tenant check which checks affordability, employment and previous tenancy reports.
- Guarantor checks are £50 if needed.
- For further details please call the office on 01691679631.

## WESTON RHYN



- Two Bedrooms
- Village Location
- Gas Central Heating

- Rear Garden, EPC D.
- No Pets/Smokers/Dss
- Viewing Recommended

£450 Per month

## OSWESTRY



- Available immediately
- Two Bedrooms, EPC D.
- Semi-Detached House

- Off Road Parking
- No Pets/Smokers
- Full time employment only

£465 Per month

## OSWESTRY



- Available immediately
- Two bedrooms
- End terraced house
- Viewing recommended
- Close to town centre
- No Pets/Smokers
- Professional persons only.

£450 Per month

## OSWESTRY



- Available February
- Two Bedrooms

- Close To Town Centre
- Viewing Recommended
- Professional Persons Only

£475 Per month



- Two Bedrooms
- Off Street Parking
- EPC Rating D

- No Smokers
- No Pets/DSS
- Available December

£475 Per month

## PANT



- Available March
- Semi-detached Property
- Three Bedrooms, EPC F.
- Two Reception Rooms

- Garage & Generous Parking
- Oil Fired Central Heating
- No Pets/Smokers
- Professional Persons only.

£600 Per month

## OSWESTRY



- \*\*Available Immediately\*\*
- Semi-Detached Property
- Two Bedrooms, EPC E

- No Pets/No Smokers
- Off Road Parking
- Gardens to Rear

£475 Per calendar month

## CHIRK

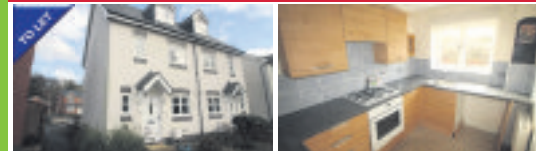


- Semi Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Updated Kitchen, EPC F.

- electric heating
- Good Sized Rear Garden
- viewing highly recommended

£495 Per month

## LLANFYLLIN



- Semi-Detached House
- Three Bedrooms
- Available Now

- Local Amenities Close
- Village Location, EPC D.
- No dss/smokers

£525 Per month

## CHIRK



- Available Feb
- Semi-Detached House
- Three Bedrooms

- Off Road Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- No Pets/Dss/Smokers

£575 Per month

## OSWESTRY



- Available Soon
- Semi Detached Property
- Corner Plot Position
- Three Bedrooms, EPC C.

£575 Per month

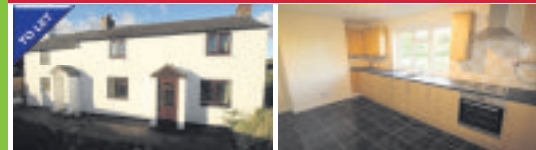
## DUDLESTON HEATH



- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Family Room, EPC C
- Available February

£600 Per month

## PANT



- Available Immediately
- Recently Renovated
- Detached Cottage, EPC C

- Two Reception Rooms
- Off Road Parking
- No Smokers

£600 Per month

## ST MARTINS



- Available Now
- Detached Bungalow
- Four Bedrooms

- No Pets/Smokers
- Full Time Employment only
- Village Location

£800 Per month

## LLYNCLYS



- Large Detached Farmhouse
- Four/ Five Bedrooms
- Three Attic Rooms

- Many Original Features
- Available February
- Private Gardens, EPC F.

£850 Per month

## LLANGYNOG



- Detached Country Cottage
- In Need Of Updating
- Two Double Bedrooms, EPC E

- Two Reception Rooms
- Views To The Front
- Oil Central Heating

£125,000

## WESTON RHYN



- Single Building Plot
- Outline Planning Permission
- Detached Two Storey Dwelling
- Established Development

Offers in the region of £49,950

## WESTON RHYN



- Building Plot
- Outline Planning Permission
- Detached 3 Bed House
- And Garage

£69,000

## TREFLACH



- Building Plot
- Full Plan Permission
- For Detached Bungalow
- Two Bedroom Detached

£75,000

## LLANRHAEDR YM



- TO BE SOLD AT AUCTION
- 11 bedrooms
- Grade II listed
- Many original features

Guide price £100,000

## CEFN MAWR



- TO BE SOLD BY AUCTION ON 20TH FEB 2014
- Two Semi-Detached Properties
- 1 x Two Bedroom

Guide price £170,000

## ELLESMERE



- Approx 10 acres of land
- Purpose built stable block
- Outdoor menage
- 8 stables and tack room

Offers in the region of £160,000



# TOWN & COUNTRY

Tel : 01691 679631

## GOBOWEN



- Mid Terrace Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory



- Gas Central Heating
- uPVC Double Glazing
- Off Road Parking

£102,500

## FOUR CROSSES



- Cottage Close To Canal
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Original Features. EPC F



- Off Road Parking
- Immaculate Condition
- Cottage Garden

£125,000

## OSWESTRY



- Mid-Terraced Property
- Well Presented
- Two Bedrooms. EPC D



- Good Sized Rear Garden
- Gas Central Heating
- Upvc Double Glazing

£118,450

## ST MARTINS



- Detached Cottage
- In Need of Renovation
- Two Bedrooms
- Conservatory. EPC F.
- Large Garden
- Great Potential
- Edge of Village Location
- Viewing Recommended

Offers over £150,000

## PARK HALL



- Spacious terraced cottage
- Three bedrooms
- Gardens front and Rear



- Private position
- Popular location
- Two reception rooms

£160,000

## NESCLIFFE



- Semi Detached House
- Sought After Location
- Two Double Bedrooms



- Good Sized Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking. EPC F
- Upvc Double Glazing

Offers in the region of £149,950

## LLANSANTFFRAID



- Barn Conversion
- Double Garage/Workshop
- Four Bedrooms
- Four Reception Rooms



- 2 En-suites plus Bathroom
- Full of Character
- Rural Setting
- A Must See Property!

£399,950

## CASTLE MILL



- Superb Country Cottage
- Updated To A High Standard
- Three Bedrooms. EPC D



- Elevated Rural Position
- Views Over Countryside
- Many Original Features

£375,000

## WHITTINGTON



- Modern detached house
- Sought after location
- Three bedrooms



- Upvc double glazing
- Parking and garage
- Gas central heating

£195,000

## OSWESTRY



- Semi Detached Bungalow
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Close To Town Centre. EPC B
- Edwardian Conservatory

Offers over £90,000



- End Terrace House
- Two Bedrooms
- Good Sized Garden
- Log Burner. EPC F.

Offers in the region of £92,500

## LLANGEDWYN



- WITH NO CHAIN!!
- Detached barn conversion
- Separate detached annexe



- Many original features
- Great potential for B&B/ letting
- Three bedrooms. EPC C.

£399,950

## TREFONEN



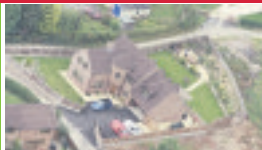
- Large Detached House
- Four Bedrooms
- With 1 Bed Annexe



- Conservatory & Study
- Lounge & Dining Room
- Oil Central Heating. EPC C

Offers in the region of £345,000

## TREFLACH, OSWESTRY



- OFFERED WITH NO CHAIN
- Luxury Detached Property
- Five Bedrooms. EPC C



- Landscaped Gardens
- Double Garage
- Village Location

£399,950

## OSWESTRY



- Detached Family Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Conservatory. EPC D.

£149,750



- Corner Plot Position
- Garage
- Gas Fired Central Heating

## OSWESTRY



- Semi-Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms



- Front and Rear Gardens
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking. EPC D

£124,950

## MELVERLEY



- Detached Country Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Potential For Extension
- Well Maintained. EPC E

Offers in the region of £259,995

## PORTH-Y-WAEN



- Detached Dormer Bungalow
- Potential Annexe
- Three/Four Bedrooms
- Set in 0.3 Acres. EPC D

Reduced to £265,000

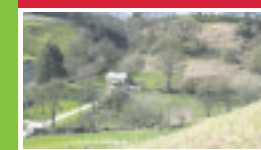
## TREFONEN



- Split Level Detached Property
- Far Reaching Views
- Four Bedrooms
- Double Garage. EPC E.

£295,000

## LLANARMON D C



- Detached Country Cottage
- Set In Five Acres Of Land
- Stunning Rural Location
- Ample Parking. EPC F

£325,000

## GLYN CEIRIOG



- Three Storey Terrace
- Many Original Features
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Double Glazing. EPC F

£115,000

## PARK HALL



- NEW BUILD
- Three Good Bedrooms
- Views of Countryside
- Garage and Parking

£230,000



## Property



### Agents recommend early viewing of spacious town semi

A spacious three-bedroom semi-detached house with low maintenance gardens and off road parking is on the market at a guide price of £124,995.

The accommodation at 46 Chestnut Avenue, Oswestry, comprises an entrance hall, cloakroom, lounge, kitchen, dining room, three bedrooms and a family bathroom. The property has UPVC double glazing and gas-fired central heating. There are gardens with ample parking and a brick built outhouse.

Selling agents Town & Country say viewing is essential to appreciate the size of the property. Contact them on 01691679631 or visit [www.townandcountryoswestry.com](http://www.townandcountryoswestry.com) to find out more.

**TOWN & COUNTRY**

Tel: 01691 679631



### Modern four-bed detached property ideal for family living

On the market with Halls, 5 Y Clawdd, Four Crosses, near Llanymynech, is a modern detached home believed to have been constructed in 2002, with oil-fired central heating and double glazing.

The spacious accommodation includes an entrance hall, cloaks/wc, sitting room, dining room, conservatory, kitchen/breakfast room and utility. Upstairs are four bedrooms, one with en-suite shower room, and a family bathroom. There is ample parking space to the front of the house, together with a single garage. The rear garden is neatly enclosed and includes a lawn and patio areas.

The property is priced at £220,000. Visit [www.hallsestateagents.co.uk](http://www.hallsestateagents.co.uk) or call Halls on 01938 555552 for details.

**Halls**

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BUILDING SOCIETY  
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[tom@mccartneys.co.uk](mailto:tom@mccartneys.co.uk)





# Wide range of properties set to go under the hammer at new auctions

Shropshire and Mid Wales property company Morris Marshall and Poole is to hold three collective property auctions in 2014.

The quarterly sales, at the Welshpool Livestock Sales HQ in Buttington, will see a mixture of properties from across the region go under the hammer – ranging from quirky homes to rental properties, farms, garages, and land for development and agriculture. Partner Robert Hudson said that he believed the market was currently right for introducing the quarterly sales.

“Primarily we will be selling properties and land that have sensible reserves and the mar-

ket will determine the right price,” he said. “From a vendor's point of view it is a certain sale because once the hammer comes down the contract is signed, a 10 per cent deposit is paid and completion has to take place within 28 days.

“From the buyer's side there is also the certainty of knowing that the property is theirs and no-one can come in with a better offer at a later date.

“The auctions will be well publicised across the region and on the national property website Rightmove, and we are confident that we will attract a lot of serious interest.”

Properties and land are already coming in for the first sale which will take place at 2pm on Thursday, March 20, but Robert is keen to hear from more potential vendors.

Pictured is Salem Chapel and Chapel House at Trefmanney, near Welshpool, which will be sold in the auction and has a guide price of £50,000.

Anyone who would like a free market appraisal is invited to call their local Morris Marshall and Poole branch in Oswestry, Welshpool, Newtown, Shrewsbury, Llanidloes, Aberswyth, Tywyn or Machynlleth, or email [auction@morrismarshall.co.uk](mailto:auction@morrismarshall.co.uk)



## Beautifully appointed family home in sought-after location

Situated a highly sought-after location within Park Hall, near Oswestry, 15 Park Crescent is an exceptionally well appointed and spacious four-bedroom detached family house.

With a new price of £295,450, the accommodation comprises an entrance hall, reception hall, cloakroom, lounge with feature fireplace, dining room, refitted kitchen with range cooker, utility, first floor landing, master bedroom with en-suite shower room, three further bedrooms, family bathroom, pvc double glazing, gas-fired central heating, double width driveway, garage, studio and gym, and attractive gardens to front and rear.

Call Richmond Harvey on 01691 654222 or visit [www.richmondharvey.com](http://www.richmondharvey.com) to find out more.



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Pictured left to right: Kate Howell (Agency Owner), Harriet Fallon (Senior Customer Consultant) and Daniel Graham.

Source: ABC





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- Possibility to split accommodation
- EPC Band - C

JJD833  
£400,000

### PANT



- Individually designed highly appointed three bed detached house
- G/F C/H, D/G
- Lounge & Study
- Breakfast Kitchen & Utility
- Sun Room
- Bathroom & En-Suite
- Garage & Car Parking
- Good Sized Garden
- Plot
- Extensive Views
- EPC Band C

JJD782  
£420,000

### PARK HALL, NR. OSWESTRY



- GFCH & D/G
- Dining Kitchen
- Sitting Room
- Sun Room
- Two Bedrooms
- Large Attractive Garden
- Garage & Parking
- Occupying Quiet Position
- EPC Band - D

JJD820  
£139,500

### LLANRHAEDR YM MOCHNANT



- Traditional Village Cottage
- Oil Fired CH
- Sitting Room
- Dining Kitchen
- Conservatory
- 2 Bedrooms
- Rear Garden
- Adjoining Garage/Outbuilding with Loft
- EPC Band - F

JJD834  
£139,950

### GOBOWEN



- Close Care Residential Bungalow
- Central Heating/Dble. Glazing
- Lounge/Dining Area
- Kitchen
- Two Bedrooms
- Large Bathroom
- Cloakroom
- Garage
- Rear Enclosed Paved Yard
- EPC Band - E

JJD821  
£109,500

### LLANFYLLIN



- OFCH UPVC D/G
- Cloakroom
- Two Reception
- Laundry Room
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Three Double Bedrooms
- En-Suite
- Terraced Garden
- EPC Band - E

JJD819  
£339,500

### GOBOWEN



- Detached Three Bedroomed Split Level House
- GFCH, D/G
- Impressive Lounge
- Dining Room
- Breakfast Kitchen & Utility
- Garage & Car Parking
- Attractive Patio Garden
- Elevated Position
- Overlooking Village
- EPC Band D

JJD781  
£210,000

### LLYNCLYS, NR. OSWESTRY



- UPVC D/G Electric Heating
- Two Reception Rooms
- Breakfast Kitchen
- Conservatory
- Three Double Beds
- En-Suite Dressing Area
- Car Port and Garage
- Caravan Standing
- Views To Rodney's Pillar
- EPC Band E

JJD725  
£250,000

### OSWESTRY



- Detached three bedroomed family house in sought after residential area
- G/F C/H, D/G
- Cloakroom
- Kitchen & Utility
- Dining Room
- Sitting Room & Lounge
- Dressing Room
- Large Garage
- Attractive Gardens
- EPC Band D

JJD778  
£349,950

### RHOSYGADFA, NR. GOBOWEN



- Most attractive award winning barn conversion
- 3 Reception Rooms
- 4 Beds & 2 Bathrooms
- 5 Acres
- Separate Cottage
- Useful Outbuilding
- Splendid views of countryside
- And Shropshire Union Canal
- EPC Band C

JJD716  
GUIDE £575,000

### OSWESTRY



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JJD708  
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- One Bed First Floor Flat
- GFCH
- Sitting Room
- Dining Kitchen
- Parking Available
- EPC Band - D
- £360 Deposit
- £150 Agreement Fee

JJD009

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**(COLLECTIVE PROPERTY AUCTION THURSDAY 20TH MARCH 2014  
AT 2PM AT WELSHPOOL LIVESTOCK MARKET, SY21 8SR)**



**Bryn Cottage, Maesbury, SY10 8HD**  
Guide Price: £145,000

- Rurally located detached bungalow
- In need of significant refurbishment works
- Two receptions, kitchen, utility,
- Three bedrooms, bathroom & garage
- Encl gardens overlooking adjoining fields
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 1

Oswestry Office 01691 679595



**Marwen, Llansantffraid**  
Guide Price: £65,000 to £75,000

- Grade II Listed Mid-Terrace House
- Requiring renovation & refurbishment
- 2 Receptions, 2 Bedrooms
- Rear garden, Outside W.C & Store
- Centre of village location
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 28

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



**Salem Chapel & Chapel House, Trefnamney.** Guide Price: £50,000

- Former Chapel & adjoining Chapel House
- Potential conversion subject to planning
- Three Bedroomed House - tenanted
- Spacious rear garden
- Open outlook to front & rear
- Energy efficiency rating = 1

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



**Plas Arthur, 26 Salop Rd, Welshpool.** Guide Price: £160,000 to £175,000

- Semi-Detached Late Victorian Property
- Two Receptions, Kitchen, G/Floor Shower
- 5 Bedrooms, Bathroom, Gas C/ Heating
- Det Garage & Vehicular access to rear
- Would benefit from some modern refitting
- Energy efficiency rating = 48

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



**Ger Y Mor, Clarech Road, Borth.** Guide Price: £125,000 to £135,000

- Mid Terrace 3 Bedroom property
- Seaside location. Superb coastal views
- Kitchen, Lounge, En suite and Bathroom
- Garage and rear yard. Electric heating.
- In need of some modernisation.
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 34

Aberystwyth Office 01970 625020



**2 Apartments over Barclays Bank, Llanidloes.** Guide Price: £150,000

- Residential Property Investment
- Separately accessed off Great Oak Street
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- Spacious well appointed apartments
- Producing a 6% gross yield on guide price
- Energy Efficiency Ratings = 66 & 67

Llanidloes Office 01686 412567



**2 Garages at Dyffryn Enterprise Pk, Newtown.** Guide Price: £10,000

- 2 Garages with metal up and over doors
- Useful investment or development opportunity subject to planning
- Located near the main A483
- Towards outskirts of town
- Adjacent to W.R Davies & on Dyffryn Industrial & Retail Park

Newtown Office 01686 626160



**Spring Auction  
20th March 2014**

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**Penybancyn, Penygarnedd, Llanrhaeadr YM**



- Det Country Property within 6 Acres
- Exceptional views of the Tanat Valley
- Spacious Sitting/Living Area, Family Room
- Kitchen/Breakfast Room
- Utility Area & Sep W.C
- 4 Bedrooms, En-Suite & Bathroom
- Oil Fired Heating, Double Glazed
- Garage/Workshop
- EPC Rating = 63

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

**£449,950**



**108 Brookfield Road, Welshpool**  
£150,000

- Detached Bungalow on good sized plot
- Sitting Room, Dining/Third Bedroom, Kitchen
- Two Further Bedrooms, Wet Room
- Gas Fired Heating, UVPC Double Glazing
- Car Port, Gardens Front and Rear
- Ideal Retirement Bungalow, No Chain
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 65

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



**1 Parc Offa, Four Crosses**

- Modern Det House
- In private development
- 2 Receptions, Kitchen/Breakfast
- 4 Bedrooms, En-suite & Bathroom
- Oil Fired Heating, Double glazed
- Spacious plot mainly laid to lawn
- Det Double Garage
- EPC rating= 62

Welshpool Office 01938 554818

**£249,950**



**22 Bryn Glas, Gungrog Hill, Welshpool**  
£139,950

- Semi-Detached 3 Bedroom Family House
- Sitting Room, Kitchen/Dining, Sun Room
- Car Port, Garage, Front & Rear Gardens
- Double glazed mainly, Gas Heating
- Requiring some modern refitting
- Views of Long Mountain range
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 53

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



**77 Bryn-Y-Ddol, Welshpool**  
£169,950

- Well Presented Detached House with views
- In Good Decorative Order Throughout
- Sitting Room, Kitchen/Dining
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Double Glazing, Central Gas Heating
- Parking to side, Car Port, Encl rear garden
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 70

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



**15 Market Street, Llanfyllin**

- Mid Terrace late Victorian 2 Bedroom House
- Sitting and Living Rooms, Kitchen, Bathroom
- Rear yard with pedestrian access
- Gas Fired Heating, Double Glazed
- Suitable for First Time Buyer/Investor
- Good order throughout. Energy efficiency rating = 51

**£130,000**

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



**15 Dolwen, Guilsfield**  
£162,000

- Spacious Semi-Detached 3 Bedroom House
- 2 Receptions, Snug, Kitchen,
- Utility, Separate W.C.
- Gas Fired Heating, Double Glazed, Parking
- Encl rear garden, Space for Garage (stp)
- Energy Efficiency Rating = TBC

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



**5 Chepstow Avenue, Guilsfield**  
£155,000

- Semi-Detached 3 Bedroom Bungalow
- Sitting Room, Kitchen
- Bathroom, Separate W.C
- Oil Fired Heating, D/Glazed, Single Garage
- Open front lawn, Enclosed garden to rear
- Open amenity space adjacent
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 57

Welshpool Office 01938 554818



**Pen-Y-Berllan, Pontrobert, Meifod**  
£199,950

- Detached Country Bungalow
- Sitting Room, Dining Area
- Kitchen, Utility, Separate W.C
- 3 Bedrooms, Bathroom
- Oil Fired Heating, Double Glazed
- Lawned surrounds, Barn and Lean-to
- Open rural outlook to rear
- Energy Efficiency Rating = 40

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2014 BMW 114d Sport 3-door, Glacier Silver, Anthracite Cloth	£22,621
2014 BMW 116d SE 3-door, Jet Black, Anthracite Cloth	£21,535
2014 BMW 114d Sport 3-door, Alpine White, Anthracite Cloth	£20,229
2014 BMW M135i 5-door, Estoril Blue, Black Leather	£31,550
2014 BMW 116d SE 5-door, Valencia Orange, Anthracite Move Cloth	£20,073
2014 BMW 116d M Sport, Alpine White, Anthracite Alcantara Cloth	£22,818
2014 BMW 118d M Sport 3-door, Estoril Blue, Anthracite Alcantara Cloth	£23,656
3 Series	EVENT PRICE
2014 BMW 316d Sport Saloon, Mineral White, Anthracite Cloth	£27,663
2014 BMW 318d Sport Saloon, Melbourne Red, Anthracite Cloth	£27,584
2014 BMW 320d M Sport Saloon, Estoril Blue, Black Dakota Leather	£30,170
2014 BMW 318d Sport Saloon, Alpine White, Anthracite Cloth	£25,169
2014 BMW 320i M Sport Saloon, Mineral Grey, Black Dakota Leather	£26,273
2014 BMW 330d M Sport Tourer, Black Sapphire, Coral Red Dakota Leather	£40,541
2014 BMW 335d xDrive M Sport Saloon, Estoril Blue, Opal White Merino Leather	£44,110
5 Series	EVENT PRICE
2014 BMW 520d M Sport Saloon, Carbon Black, Black Dakota Leather	£35,076
2014 BMW 520d M Sport Touring, Alpine White, Black Dakota Leather	£38,407
2014 BMW 530d M Sport Saloon, Alpine White, Black Dakota Leather	£42,506
2014 BMW 520d M Sport Saloon, Space Grey, Black Dakota Leather	£34,956
2014 BMW 520d SE Saloon, Glacier Silver, Black Dakota Leather	£31,277
2014 BMW 520d M Sport Saloon, Carbon Black, Oyster Leather	£36,761
6 Series	EVENT PRICE
2014 BMW 640d M Sport Gran Coupé, Ruby Black, Ivory White Dakota Leather	£60,983
2014 BMW 640d M Sport Coupé, Titanium Silver, Black Exclusive Leather	£60,803
2014 BMW 640d M Sport Coupé, Alpine White, Black Dakota Leather	£58,778
2014 BMW 640d M Sport Convertible, Carbon Black, Ivory White Dakota Leather	£57,325
2014 BMW 640d M Sport Convertible, Moonstone, Black Dakota Leather	£58,645
2014 BMW 640d M Sport Coupé, Alpine White, Vermillion Red Exclusive Leather	£60,606
7 Series	EVENT PRICE
2014 BMW 740d M Sport Saloon, Carbon Black, Ivory White Leather	£52,978
2014 BMW 730d M Sport Saloon, Black Sapphire, Oyster Leather Nappa Leather	£55,525
2014 BMW 730d M Sport Saloon, Sophisto Grey, Ivory White/Black Dakota Leather	£47,966
X Range	EVENT PRICE
2014 BMW X1 xDrive18d Sport, Alpine White, Anthracite Cloth	£25,694
2014 BMW X3 xDrive30d M Sport, Carbon Black, Oyster Nevada Leather	£46,999
2014 BMW X1 xDrive18d xLine, Glacier Silver, Black Nevada Leather	£29,959
2014 BMW X6 xDrive30d, Titanium Silver, Black Nevada Leather	£37,113
2014 BMW X3 xDrive20d M Sport, Alpine White, Black Dakota Leather	£37,692

BMW 1 Series	EVENT PRICE
2013 BMW 120d SE 3-door Sports Hatch Midnight Blue Metallic, Anthracite Move Cloth, 9k	£16,950
2011 BMW 116i Sport 5-door Sports Hatch Jet Black, Anthracite/Red Track, 16k	£13,995
2010 BMW 118d SE 5-door Sports Hatch Black Sapphire, Anthracite Network Cloth, 50k	£10,950
2012 BMW 125d M Sport 5-door Sports Hatch Estoril Blue, Anthracite Hexagon Cloth/Alcantara, 30k	£18,950
2012 BMW 116i Sport 3-door Sports Hatch Alpine White, Anthracite/Red Track, 13k	£15,950
2011 BMW 118d SE Space Grey, Cloth Elektra Anthra, 34k	£13,450
BMW 3 Series	EVENT PRICE
2010 BMW 320d M Sport Touring Bluewater, Dakota Black Leather, 61k	£12,950
2010 BMW 320d Exclusive Edition Platinum Bronze, Oyster Dakota Leather, 49k	£13,450
2010 BMW M3 Coupé Melbourne Red Metallic, Novillo Bamb Leather, 59k	£29,000
2011 BMW 318d M Sport Saloon Alpine White, Blue Shadow Cloth/Alcantara Anthracite, 29k	£15,950
2011 BMW 330d M Sport Coupé Space Grey, Coral Red Dakota Leather, 37k	£22,950
2009 BMW 320d SE Business Edition Bluewater, Dakota Black Leather, 73k	£11,950
2009 BMW 320d SE Business Edition Crimson Red, Dakota Black Leather, 61k	£12,950
2010 BMW 318d M Sport Saloon Titanium Silver, Blue Shadow Cloth/Alcantara Anthracite, 36k	£15,950
BMW 5 Series	EVENT PRICE
2011 BMW 520d SE Saloon Jet Black, Dakota Venet Leather, 24k	£17,950
2013 BMW 530d M Sport Saloon Imperial Blue Xrall, Oyster Dakota Leather, 17k	£33,950
2011 BMW 520d M Sport Saloon Titanium Silver, Dakota Black Leather, 24k	£21,750
2011 BMW 525d M Sport Saloon Alpine White, Dakota Black Leather, 24k	£24,450
2012 BMW 520d SE Saloon Space Grey, Dakota Black Leather, 18k	£20,450
BMW 6 Series	EVENT PRICE
2012 BMW 640d M Sport Coupé Imola Red, Dakota Black Leather, 22k	£36,950
2012 BMW 640d M Sport Coupé Alpine White, Dakota Black Leather, 41k	£34,995
2011 BMW 640d SE Coupé Black Sapphire, Ivory White Dakota Leather, 14k	£33,450
BMW 7 Series	EVENT PRICE
2013 BMW 730d M Sport Carbon Black, Ivory White/Black Dakota Leather, 6k	£37,450
2013 BMW 730d SE Mineral White metallic, Dakota Black Leather, 5k	£37,450
BMW X Range	EVENT PRICE
2010 BMW X5 xDrive40d M Sport Carbon Black, Oyster Nevada Leather, 41k	£31,950
2010 BMW X5 xDrive30d M Sport Space Grey, Black Nevada Leather, 45k	£29,950
2006 BMW X5 30d Sport Sterling Grey, Dakota Black Leather, 56k	£14,450
2011 BMW X5 xDrive30d SE Black Sapphire, Black Nevada Leather, 48k	£32,950
2011 BMW X3 xDrive20d SE Mineral Silver, Black Nevada Leather, 22k	£27,950
2011 BMW X3 xDrive20d SE Alpine White, Black Nevada Leather, 44k	£26,950
2012 BMW X5 xDrive40d M Sport Black Sapphire, Oyster Nevada Leather, 9k	£43,950
2012 BMW X1 xDrive18d SE Glacier Silver metallic, Black Nevada Leather, 8k	£20,500
2013 BMW X3 xDrive20d SE Space Grey, Black Nevada Leather, 9k	£32,950
2012 BMW X3 xDrive20d M Sport Black Sapphire, Black Nevada Leather, 10k	£33,495
2012 BMW X3 xDrive20d SE Black Sapphire, Black Nevada Leather, 9k	£33,500
2011 BMW X1 xDrive18d M Sport Blue, Cloth, 30k	£17,950
2013 BMW X6 M50d Alpine White, Black Alcantara, 20k	£54,995
2011 BMW X3 xDrive20d M Sport Deep Sea Blue, Oyster Nevada Leather, 33k	£29,500
2013 BMW X6 xDrive30d Alpine White, Black Nevada Leather, MOA	£42,950

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# JT Hughes

## Coming of age for Outlander

**Mitsubishi UK has decided to keep things simple and offer one diesel engine with a four-wheel drive chassis.**

Although 105kg lighter than its predecessor, the engine has been tweaked for a bit more low-end boost, and is managed by a six-speed auto, with steering wheel paddles for manual override.

The auto adds 1.5 seconds to the manual car's sprint to 100km/h, stretching it out to 11.2 seconds. Both cars register an identical 124mph top speed.

In these wet and slippery winter conditions, a sure-footed, economical, big interior 4x4 offers security and driving confidence for you and your family. The new Outlander comes highly recommended by JT Hughes and is ready to test drive now.

This Outlander offers plenty of soft-touch finishes and a clean, architectural fascia design. It's a decent size too, with a third row of seats that disappears into the floor, more legroom for second row

passengers and plenty of room up front. There's also plenty of cubby stowage and up to 1,022 litres of space on the flat floor (with the rear seats folded), 591 litres when in five-seat mode. The load floor is now 1.69m long when the second and third rows are folded, a massive 33.5cm up on its predecessor. The middle row of seats can slide on runners back and forth over a range of 25cm.

### Safety

Entry-level cars come equipped with air-conditioning, alloy wheels, cruise control, four powered windows, remote locking, seven airbags and stability control, while mid-level cars will feature things like leather and dual-zone climate control. The range-topping model gets refinements such as satellite navigation, a parking camera and a high-end audio system, along with advanced safety systems including lane departure warning, radar cruise control and a collision mitigation system.

The Outlander's CO2 return has dropped from 164g/km to 146g/km, while combined cycle fuel economy has improved from 44.8mpg to 50.4mpg - compared to the second-generation car. With the automatic gearbox your economy won't be quite so impressive, but the 46.3mpg figure is still better than the previous shape manual model, so there's a clear indicator of progress.

If you're looking for something spacious, relatively affordable, super-reliable and which can seat seven, the Mitsubishi Outlander muscles its way into contention. It's a very capable family contender with more space than a Freelander-style compact 4x4 and more all-round capability than a Qashqai-like Crossover.

No matter how good the figures look, the true test is to get behind the wheel and experience the third generation Outlander for yourself. And it couldn't be easier, just call your local JT Hughes Mitsubishi dealership and arrange a test drive.



## New Honda CRV – go much further for far less

**The super-frugal Honda 1.6 i-DTEC engine is now available in the ever-popular new Honda CR-V. And if that's not tempting enough, it's also available for a super-frugal £269\* a month via our PCP at a 0 per cent APR.**

In a rigorous independent test over more than 500 miles of regular UK roads, the CR-V achieved an incredible 77.86mpg, almost a quarter more than its official quoted figure of 62.8mpg.

That means it sipped just 29.75 litres (6.544 gallons) of fuel over the distance.

Based on the official fuel economy figures, the CR-V 1.6 i-DTEC has the potential to cover up to 800 miles on

a single tank of fuel. In addition, CO2 emissions are as low as 119g/km, so the CR-V 1.6 i-DTEC qualifies for £0 road tax for the first year and as low as £30 annual road tax thereafter.

The new CR-V is available with three generously equipped trim levels – S, SE and SR.

### Safety

The entry level S costs £22,800 OTR and features DAB Radio, dual zone climate control air conditioning, cruise control, electric adjustable and heated door mirrors, USB connectivity, steering wheel remote audio controls, 5-inch Intelligent Multi Info Display (i-MID), and 17" alloy wheels.

It also has all the driver safety aids such as ABS (Anti-Lock Braking Sys-

tem), driver seat power lumbar support and Vehicle Stability Assist (VSA) as standard.

The fuel-efficient CR-V is available from just £239\* per month on a three-year 0 per cent APR PCP finance plan. The CR-V is also eligible for Honda's all-new comprehensive aftercare package.

The package – simply called 'Five' – includes five years' servicing, five years' warranty and five years' roadside assist for just £500.

The new CR-V has proved its pedigree in real world testing, so why not put it to the test yourself.

Just call your nearest JT Hughes dealership and book a test drive today.

\* See terms and conditions on the 'Drive happily ever after' advertisement.





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**JT Hughes**

Fuel consumption figures for CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in mpg (l/100km): Urban 31.7 (8.9), Extra Urban 45.6 (6.2), Combined 39.2 (7.2). CO<sub>2</sub> emissions: 168g/km. Fuel consumption figures sourced from official EU-regulated laboratory test results, are provided for comparison purposes and may not reflect real-life driving experience.

**Model Shown:** CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in optional Passion Red Pearl at £22,495 On The Road. **Terms and Conditions:** New retail CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual registered from 2 January 2014 to 31 March 2014. Subject to model and colour availability. Offers applicable at participating dealers and are at the promoter's absolute discretion. **Honda Aspirations (PCP):** \*£269 per month example shown based on CR-V 2.0 i-VTEC S 2WD Manual in optional Passion Red Pearl at £22,995 total cash price including 5 year care package at £500 (and total amount payable) with 37 months 0% APR Representative (interest rate per annum 0% fixed) with £4,456.64 (19%) deposit. Guaranteed Future Value / Optional Final Payment of £8,854.53, annual mileage of 10,000 and excess mileage charge: 6p per mile. You do not have to pay the Final Payment if you return the car at the end of the agreement and you have paid all other amounts due, the vehicle is in good condition and has been serviced in accordance with the Honda service book and the maximum annual mileage has not been exceeded. Indemnities may be required in certain circumstances. Finance is only available to persons aged 18 or over, subject to status. All figures are correct at time of publication but may be subject to change. Credit provided by Honda Finance Europe Plc. 470 London Road, Slough, Berkshire SL3 8DQ. **The 5 Year Care Package includes:** Servicing: All scheduled servicing, as detailed in the vehicles service book, will be covered for 5 years or 62,500 miles, whichever comes first. **Warranty:** In addition to the standard 3 year warranty the customer will receive a complimentary 2 year extended guarantee taking the warranty to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. **Roadside Assist:** In addition to the standard 3 years roadside assistance package the customer will receive complimentary HondaCare Assistance for a further 2 years, taking it to 5 years or 90,000 miles, whichever comes first. **The 5 Year Care Package:** The 5 Year Care Package is optional. It is being offered for £500 including VAT (usual value £1,545 including VAT) and is available to finance or non-finance customers. Please note, should you sell the vehicle during the period of cover, the package remains with the vehicle.



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43 Months	£9,050	£249	£26,579	£17,529	£10,500	£30,008	6.8%	6.9% APR

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1. The Alternatives PCP finance plan shown is only available to customers aged 18 years and over, subject to status and only through Finance Mitsubishi. 116 Cockfosters Rd, Barnet, EN4 0DY. Indemnities may be required. Finance Mitsubishi is part of Lloyds Bank Asset Finance. Metallic paint extra. 2. Free Mitsubishi Service Plan (MSP) offer is only available on vehicles registered on finance plans through Finance Mitsubishi. MSP covers the first 3 scheduled services and includes parts and labour defined by the manufacturer. For full details of the Mitsubishi Service Plan and scheduled services please ask your local Mitsubishi dealer. 7 seats only available on GX3, GX4 and GX5. Offer is only applicable in the UK (excludes Northern Ireland, Channel Islands & I.O.M.), subject to availability and whilst stocks last and may be amended or withdrawn at any time. Offer available at participating dealers between 1st January and 31st March 2014. Fuel figures shown are official EU test figures, to be used as a guide for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results.

Outlander range fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km): Urban 39.8 – 44.1 (7.1 – 6.4), Extra Urban 55.4 – 61.4 (5.1 – 4.6), Combined 48.7 – 53.3 (5.8 – 5.3), CO<sub>2</sub> emissions 153 – 138g/km.





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1639th, 1640th, 1



# Peugeot Racy and hot RCZ

By Ian Donaldson

**Readers who like to wait to the end of a new car review for the verdict should turn away now: this is the best Peugeot for years.**

By some way, too. Peugeot has rediscovered its mojo in a coupé that simply gobbles up the road and leaves a driver begging for more.

Not before time, you might say. Peugeot once produced nicely warmed over cars that had enthusiasts queuing for a drive, but that was too long ago for comfort.

The hot(ish) 208 GTI we first saw last year started to give renewed hope to people who wanted to be wowed by the lion-badged machines from France. The new RCZ R takes the story forward several chapters at once.

It's the 'R' that makes all the difference, turning

an elegant 2+2 into something that can stand comparison with cars costing more and bearing much more upmarket badges.

If nearly £32,000 strikes you as a lot to splash out on a Peugeot (you'll probably want £520 worth of metallic paint too), then you have to drive the car to understand the depth of ability displayed when you fire off down the road.

This alchemy is down to Peugeot Sport, a division of the company charged with pumping some vigour into the everyday machines that roll down the production line.

Now, it could have taken the cynical route (it wouldn't have been the first) and simply bolted on bigger wheels, a spoiler and noisier exhaust and waited for the buyers not to notice the deception.

So well done everyone back at the works for refusing to take the easy way out. Every bit of the RCZ that matters to a keen driver has been examined and honed to make it better where it matters.

Taking the £5,360 cheaper RCZ GT 200 as a base, the engineers at Peugeot Sport have



**Peugeot has rediscovered its mojo in a coupé that simply gobbles up the road and leaves a driver begging for more**

turned up the wick on the turbocharger attached to the newly-strengthened engine and found another 70 horsepower.

That's enough to make this a very fast car; top speed is electronically limited to 155mph (which ought to be enough for anyone, surely) and it claws its way to 62mph in less than six seconds. So it's quick.

So it should be with all that power in a car that's a loaded suitcase lighter than its cheaper, but still fast stablemate RCZ. Much less expected is the smooth, subtle way all that power is delivered; gently enough when you're not in a press on mood to make it a relaxing companion in town.

Out on an interesting piece of road, the RCZ R up its game still further and becomes the most delightful surprise.

For, as well as making the car sit lower to the ground and attaching much stiffer springs fore and aft, the clever chaps at Peugeot Sport have

made the car more comfortable. That's an extraordinary feat. The car rides in a much more controlled manner than slower, cheaper versions of the RCZ. Its newfound poise is down to some brilliant fine tuning, masking the stiffer springs and big alloy wheels wrapped in sportily special Goodyear tyres.

A bigger, and fixed spoiler on the boot lid helps keep the car pushed to the road at high speeds, while discreet use of 'R' logos inside and outside the car, and red stitching on the trim, tell you this is a special place to spend time.

Up front, there are a pair of deeply sculpted seats that look too narrow for generous bottoms, but aren't, while in the back are a couple of child friendly perches.

Rarely has comfort and sporting ability been as well knitted together. Peugeot's order books are filling quickly for the RCZ R and it's easy to see why.



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PEUGEOT

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MPG figures are achieved under official EU test conditions, intended as a guide for comparative purposes only, and may not reflect actual on-the-road driving conditions. Terms and conditions apply, participating dealers only or visit [www.peugeot.co.uk](http://www.peugeot.co.uk). To finance your lease/purchase we may introduce you to a limited number of lenders. #Passport Personal Lease: A guarantee may be required. Over 18's only. Written quotations available on request from Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH1 1QA. Passport Personal Lease contract examples: 208 Access 1.0 VTi 68 3dr customer initial payment £149, Dealer initial payment contribution £250, Peugeot initial payment contribution £500, optional final payment £3,848. 46 monthly rentals payable. Annual mileage 6000 miles. Excess mileage charges may apply. If you choose to pay off the optional final rental at the end of contract, you can keep the car but will not own it – you will pay an annual rental equivalent to one of your monthly rentals. However, car ownership is possible with Passport – ask us for details. Offers apply to vehicles ordered by 31st March 2014. Calls may be recorded for training purposes.



## Drivetime

# Kia from strength to strength



**Sharon Walters**  
Motoring editor

sharon.walters@  
shropshirestar.co.uk

Since its launch in 2010 the **Kia Sportage** has proved itself as a car to be reckoned with in the crossover sector, selling over 20,800 models in 2013 and 47,064 since its launch in the UK. The 2014 Sportage is available to pre-order now and available in showrooms from February.

Kia's designers have added a package of styling and equipment upgrades to its crossover to keep it at the forefront of this booming sector. The Sportage is Kia's best-selling model in the UK, claiming around a quarter of the company's sales.

Ian Mathews head of product planning, Kia

Motors UK Ltd, commenting on the 2014 Sportage model said: "With the adage 'if it ain't broke...' at the back of our minds we looked carefully at what changes to make to the line-up for the 2014 Sportage to ensure that what customers love about their cars is kept and for enhancements to the line-up to add appeal and diversity.

"We've listened to our dealers and customers and by adding more engine options at the entry and top-of-the-range as well as incorporating new technologies such as Trailer Stability Assist across all models we are taking standard specification levels to those expected on premium brands."

The 2014 line up is based on the outgoing models trim designation with added specifications and design elements including enhanced versions of Kia's 'tiger-nosed' grille across the range with upgrades from painted to chrome surrounds as well as new styling to the central radiator mesh design.

Inside, a new soft 'nano' paint finish has been added to the dashboard and centre console and there is now centre console illumination and soft-touch upper door trims.

A heated steering wheel and a six-way power



**Kia's designers have added a package of styling and equipment grades to its crossover to keep it at the forefront**

adjustable driver's seat have been added to top spec models.

A 4.2-inch TFT LCD supervision cluster is mounted between the recessed dials of the newly designed dual-bezel instrument display has been added to selected grades. An Infinity premium audio system, available on Sportage for the first time is fitted to higher grades.

All versions now have Trailer Stability Assist to help make towing safer. A Tyre Pressure Monitoring System is now standard to alert the driver to any significant under-inflation.

Two new variants at the top and bottom have been added to the 16 car line up to further broaden the appeal to customers – an all-wheel drive 2.0 CRDi entry level and the 1.7 CRDi turbodiesel is an option on the top spec two-wheel drive model.

The 1.6-litre direct-injection petrol unit and 1.7-litre turbodiesel made their debuts in the Sportage and are the mainstays of the range in the UK. They come

as standard with a six-speed manual gearbox, while with the 2.0-litre engines buyers are offered the choice of six-speed manual or six-speed automatic. The Dymak intelligent all-wheel-drive system is standard on every 2.0-litre model.

Kia engineers conducted final testing on UK roads to ensure that the all-independent suspension delivers agile and safe handling and an absorbent and comfortable ride, despite the unique, challenging demands that British roads present.

In keeping with every Kia, the Sportage comes with the company's industry leading seven-year or 100,000-mile warranty, subject to certain wear and tear conditions. It is fully transferable should the car be sold before the time or mileage limits have been reached.

The Sportage is available with Kia's Care-3 and Care-3 Plus servicing package, offering retail customers fixed-cost, inflation-proof servicing for the first three or five years.



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*\*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.*

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Organised by Omega Events Ltd (ABTA Y590X)

**For a theatre brochure call the Promotions team on (01902) 319999 (Monday to Friday, 9am-5pm), or go to [expressandstar.com/starextratravel](http://expressandstar.com/starextratravel)**

Please read brochure/web page for full information plus terms and conditions

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**LAURA ASHLEY** Large two seater sofa, Raspberry Vgg £200 ono, Oswestry 0789 046 6964

**LPG COOKER** Color gas, New world, good working order £140, 01691 656537

**OLD OAK STUMPS** ideal for the garden, £60, ono, Oswestry 07969 107108

**OVEN AND HOB** Electric cooker Europa, solar plus, creda plan in good condition £150 ono, can deliver £150, 01691 630347

**TOSHIBA TELEVISION** 26" in very good condition £20, also video player £5, freeview box £5, 079499 28752

**TRAVEL COT** In good clean condition, £15, Oswestry 07949 928752

**WELSH DRESSER** Pine, 5ft, £40, ono, Oswestry 07809 684729

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1. **Midland News Association Limited** All publications in this group are published by the Midland News Association Limited, registered office Queen Street, Wolverhampton WV1 1ES (the Company) and this is the address to which any notices should be sent.

2. **Acceptance** The Company will only accept advertising on these standard terms and no other conditions will apply other than those which are implied by statute and cannot lawfully be excluded. In particular the Company will not accept advertising on the basis of advertiser's terms and conditions.

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9. **Cancellation** On a request for cancellation or amendment of a classified advertisement being accepted, you will be given a cancellation or amendment number which must be quoted in all subsequent correspondence. Payment of the originally agreed price will be required in full for any advertisement in relation to which the advertiser is unable to supply a valid cancellation or amendment number. Cancellation can only be accepted if the Company is notified of the cancellation by no later than the following deadlines:- Lineage, Semi Display - By no later than 6.30pm on the working day prior to publication. Advertisements to appear on Monday must be cancelled by 10 am on the preceding Saturday

Classified Display - By no later than 24 hours before the date of publication Colour/Features - By no later than 10 clear days before the date of publication To cancel Lineage, Semi Display and Classified Display advertisements please telephone 01902 317878. To cancel Colour/Features advertisements please speak to the Representative through whom the advertisement was booked.

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Payment may be made by [method] cash, cheque or credit/debit card. The advertiser's obligation to pay for other items on an account shall not be affected by the existence of any payment over an individual item within that account.

12. **Data Protection Act** The advertiser's details will be retained by the Company for the purposes of administering its accounts records and so that the Company may notify the advertiser of future advertising opportunities which may be of interest to you. By placing advertising with the Company the advertiser agrees to your details being used for this purpose.

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\*Source: ABC



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If you have the above skills please visit the school website ([www.ellesmere.com](http://www.ellesmere.com)) for an application pack. Completed applications are to be submitted by Thursday 20th February 2014 and are to be sent to the Personnel Secretary, Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9AB. Tel: 01691 622321 or email [harriet.jones@ellesmere.com](mailto:harriet.jones@ellesmere.com).

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its students and expects its staff to share this commitment. Applicants must be prepared to undergo Child Protection Screening, including checks with past employers and DBS. References will be sought and verified at the short-listing stage as part of our safeguarding children procedures.

Ellesmere College is a Woodard School



**Ellesmere**  
A 7-18 Coeducational School

We are seeking to recruit

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This post involves regular hours on Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings but also requires other journeys at short notice, accompanying Ellesmere College students to doctors, dentists and hospital appointments.

Person appointed must have a clean full driving license, know the local area (especially the hospitals) and have their own vehicle (which must be insured for business use). Remuneration is £8.52 per hour and 40p per mile.

If you are interested please visit the school website ([www.ellesmere.com](http://www.ellesmere.com)) for an application pack. Completed applications are to be submitted by 9.00am Tuesday 18th March 2014 and sent to the Personnel Secretary, Ellesmere College, Ellesmere, Shropshire SY12 9AB. Tel: 01691 622321 or email [harriet.jones@ellesmere.com](mailto:harriet.jones@ellesmere.com).

The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of its students and expects its staff to share this commitment. Applicants must be prepared to undergo Child Protection Screening, including checks with past employers and DBS. References will be sought and verified at the short-listing stage as part of our safeguarding children procedures.

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**Closing date for applications Friday 14th February**

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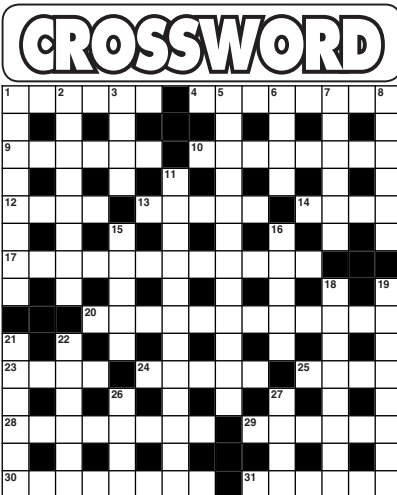
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Closing date February 14th



Compiled by Roger F. Squires

## ACROSS DOWN

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1 One responsible for laughter in court? (6)                    | 1 Sailor gains trophies - very good prizes (8)                   |
| 4 New poets are producing works (8)                             | 2 Unusual for one (8)  |
| 9 Stick around at home like a dog (6)                           | 3 In the end a girl is confused (4)                              |
| 10 Possibly set about the goods enjoyed by a French gourmet (8) | 5 Having broken a personal record, though on the decline (4,4,4) |
| 12 A positive sign (4)  | 6 Not all fire alarms are genuine (4)                            |
| 13 Story not generally told (5)                                 | 7 Gadget wrongly labelled (6)                                    |
| 14 No blind prophet (4)   | 8 Strays around in the woods (6)                                 |
| 17 Sent nil total in error, practically speaking (2,3,7)        | 11 He works at intervals (12)                                    |
| 20 Demolition worker with criminal intent (12)                  | 15 A tax return to distribute (5)                                |
| 23 Further chaos in Laos (4)                                    | 16 Might be cold, yet good tempered (5)                          |
| 24 Pity's stirred by those influenced by drink (5)              | 18 Game to set kits swirling? (8)                                |
| 25 Game unsuitable for women (4)                                | 19 Ships, and in them, pirates (8)                               |
| 28 Quietly begrudges the things that are given (8)              | 21 It's piled on the floor (6)                                   |
| 29 Foreign city songwriter (6)                                  | 22 Successfully retired? (6)                                     |
| 30 Records an attempt to provide interior decoration (8)        | 26 Good starting points for a drive (4)                          |
| 31 Old sports organised just so (6)                             | 27 He ruled in one Roman era (4)                                 |

## LAST WEEKS RESULTS

**Across:** 1 Conveyance, 6 Scab, 10 Dig in, 11 Conger eel, 12 Sinecure, 13 Estop, 15 Re-enact, 17 Top hats, 19 Ditched, 21 Disease, 22 Groll, 24 Chinnies, 27 On one side, 28 Inane, 29 Meet, 30 Persistent.

**Down:** 1 Code, 2 Negligent, 3 Ernie, 4 Account, 5 Consent, 7 Cheat, 8 Billposter, 9 Receipts, 14 Bridgegroom, 16 Achilles, 18 At any rate, 20 Decline, 21 Drivers, 23 Ozone, 25 Nails, 26 Heat.



# Local Specialists



## TIPS OF THE WEEK

SUCH is the reputation that McDonald Landrover has built up at Oswestry that the company now offers services to owners of other makes of 4x4. New, fully trained staff have been recruited as the business expands to accommodate an increased demand to cater for all 4x4 brands. "We have taken on new staff who are experienced and trained on other makes and we have invested in the very best diagnostic equipment," said Rupert Astbury, at the Mile Oak Industrial Estate site. The business was purchased in 2001 as a small parts supply operation and moved to the current larger premises in 2002, opening the workshop with one mechanic. The business now has five people in the workshop, three on parts and one in the office. Parts stockholding is over £100,000 and any part that is not on the shelf can be obtained for the next day. McDonald Landrover also has a thriving website shop and are aiming to have the ability for customers to book cars into the workshop online later this year. The workshop staff have a wealth of experience backed up by the latest vehicle-specific diagnostic equipment, meaning any problem on any Land Rover from 1948 to the present day can be worked on. Servicing is undertaken using genuine Land Rover service parts ensuring that all vehicles still within their warranty period receive the correct work. "We are looking forward to 2012 being our best yet," said Rupert. "We have a very strong team, excellent work ethic and a determination to give the customer value for money," he added. When it comes to Land Rover servicing there is nobody better than McDonald Landrover, specialising in the maintenance of all Land Rover makes and models. The company has built up a solid client base in the Shropshire area over a number of years with a reputation for servicing of the highest quality.

Contact McDonald Landrover at Mile Oak Industrial Estate Maesbury Road, Oswestry, on 01691 657705.

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\*The "from" price and price bands vary for each show – see brochure for details.  
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## BUSINESS

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# Partnership helps firms to flourish

WITH more and more talk of the economy having turned a corner it seems we, as a county, might take additional comfort that we are part of the Marches Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP).

The Marches LEP has the following mission statement: *From small high-tech firms in remote rural locations to internationally renowned companies in vibrant town centres and busy market towns; the Marches LEP is committed to its diverse economic base, helping businesses to thrive.*

I recently attended an event with the Shropshire Chamber of Commerce at which the guest speaker was Graham Wynn OBE, Chair of the Marches LEP.

He talked at length about the work of the LEP and quoted some encouraging statistics with regard to local investment.

In particular he mentioned an interesting procurement process from the Crown Commercial Service (formerly Government Procurement Service) which provides a Contracts Finder, an Electronic Daily Tender summary, an eSourcing Tool and something called the Dynamic Marketplace which advertised lower value contracts.

These four different methods, on first inspection, appear to be worth investigating as they aim to provide genuine, straightforward and varied opportunities for companies of all size to win government business. I shall certainly be taking a more in depth look.

You can find out more about the Marches LEP at [www.marcheslep.org.uk](http://www.marcheslep.org.uk) and details of the Crown Commercial Service are located at <https://ccs.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/i-am-a-supplier>

Oswestry Chamber of Commerce meets on the first Wednesday of the month at the Wynnstay Hotel from 6pm to 7pm. Our next meeting is on March 5 and visitors are welcome. Visit [www.oswestrychamber.org.uk](http://www.oswestrychamber.org.uk) or phone 01691 700800.

**HEATHER NOBLE**  
Chairman  
Oswestry Chamber of Commerce

# Car dealer preparing to unveil advanced website

**A NEW state of the art website – one of the first in the country – has been ordered by Oswestry based Vauxhall dealer Arthurs.**

And the dealership, which has branches in Oswestry and Newtown, has been praised for its foresight by a senior Vauxhall official.

Arthurs Vauxhall looked at a number of different websites before finally plumping for the Vauxhall-endorsed website.

Said the dealership's website manager Josh Allen: "The Vauxhall-endorsed website will always enable us to offer the very latest information available from Vauxhall, including the raft of new models due to be launched over the next few years."

"It is an exciting time for a Vauxhall dealer and we felt this was the opportune time to ensure our website was up with the best."

"We are having many new features on our website, including live chat, online service booking and a very advanced Network Q used car locator."

"We are in the advanced stages of setting up this new website and we expect it to go live within the next couple of weeks."

"We are one of the first Vauxhall dealers in the country to have this new website and it is an honour for Arthurs to be asked by Vauxhall to be included on the first phase."

Andy Freeman, Vauxhall's head of digital and relation-

**by Graham Breeze**

ship marketing said he was pleased that Arthurs was included on the first phase of this next generation of dealer websites.

"This is designed to be an industry leading integrated website and digital marketing solution."

"The website will deliver a visual 'wow' factor for visitors as well as having user friendliness and advanced functionality such as responsive design."

"Underpinning the new website will be a range of digital marketing tools that will put Arthurs ahead of the competition."

Mr Allen added: "Arthurs has invested a large amount of resources into this website as well as social media. We are very encouraged by the response to our Facebook page and Twitter and with this new site there will be integrations which will allow us to develop all these different social media channels."

## Town landmark is up for sale



The Chapel in Salop Road, Oswestry

OSWESTRY estate agents James & Co are selling one of the town's best known landmarks as an investment opportunity.

The Chapel in Salop Road is a 5,000sq ft two storey fully occupied freehold property and is on the market with an asking price of £310,000.

The property is one of the landmark buildings within the town centre and is let to an established gymnasium business.

The Chapel is situated immediately adjacent to the entrance to the main central car park as well as benefiting from a prime static marketing position off the main access road to Sainsbury's.

The first floor retains many of the chapel's original features including ornate and structural ceiling timbers.

Viewing is by appointment with the selling agents.

Contact James & Co for more details or to make an appointment to view the property by calling 01691 657077.

# New base for town carpet business

A LEADING Oswestry independent carpet specialist is settling in to new premises on Victoria Road.

J & I Carpets has relocated to premises behind the Co-Op from their King Street location and are open seven days a week.

It is a true family business run by Ian & Janet Walker along with their two sons, Simon and Craig. Also helping out is nephew Lee Evans & daughter Katie to complete the family affair.

J & I Carpets has been trading in Oswestry for over 30 years and the company appreciates the support they've had over the years from all their customers.

The family believe it's their loyal customers who return to them that have made a success of J & I Carpets.

Staff pride themselves on providing a personal service with no hidden costs and all their work is guaranteed.

Ian, Simon & Craig are all NICEF master fitters, which is the highest status a carpet fitter can achieve.

In their new showroom they stock over 30 rolls of carpet and 20 rolls of vinyl ready to take away or use their first class fitting service.

They also sell wood and laminate flooring, curtains & blinds and offer a free measuring service.

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# BUSINESS

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## More town firms are backing Fairtrade

THE first town in Shropshire to be given Fairtrade Status has had the recognition renewed.

Shops and cafes in Oswestry who have signed up to support the scheme – which gives suppliers in poor countries a better deal for their wares – say more and more suppliers are offering Fairtrade gifts, from traditional teas and coffees through to clothing and gifts.

The market town was officially recognised as a Fairtrade town in 2006 and its status has to be confirmed every two years.

There are currently 12 shops in the town, with another five just outside, selling a wide range of Fairtrade products.

In addition, there are a further dozen food businesses in the town selling Fairtrade drinks and refreshments and at least three bed and breakfast premises.

Oswestry mayor, Councillor Chris Schofield, said: "For a small market town, this is a very impressive achievement."

Gemma Syrett Judd from the organic specialists, Honysuckle, said: "There is no doubt that interest in Fairtrade is increasing and we will continue to stock Fairtrade goods whenever we can as we have done for the past 35 years."

# Dream machine will help fastener firm to expand

AN Oswestry-based firm took delivery of its first Computer Numerical Control (CNC) machine last month which will lead to increased manufacturing in the region and a boost for jobs in the future.

GWR Fasteners, a family-run business, took delivery of their first CNC Machine in January, which is a major milestone for the company's owners, Gary and Jude Robinson.

This has been achieved through the assistance of the Regional Growth Fund programme which is a scheme offered to small and medium sized enterprises which will aid the company in creating two jobs, one immediately and one within the next 12 months.

by Graham Breeze

## Chemists help ease pressure

AN Oswestry pharmacist has urged people to take part in a new scheme to help ease the pressure on GPs and A&E departments.

John Gentle, superintendent pharmacist at The Pharmacy @ Caxton, Oswestry, wants people to seek advice on minor medical conditions from their local chemist as a first point of call, on guidance from NHS England.

It comes after a recent investigation by the BBC suggested more than 12,000 people attended A&E more than 10 times a year, with more than 150 of those visiting 50 times a year.

Mr Gentle said: "The NHS is already under huge pressure and it is only going to increase in the coming years as the UK population grows."

"A lot of this pressure could be eased if people instead used their local pharmacy for advice on many minor ailments."

"Pharmacists are trained in the correct use of all medication."

Over the last three years, the company has had access to machinery which has seen the manufacturing arm of the business grow substantially.

GWR Fasteners Limited already manufacture for other fastener companies; for luxury cars; for 3D printer companies; for steam engines for model boats; for the chemical reactor industry; for automotive companies; and for other high precision engineering companies.

### Increase

Managing director Gary Robinson said: "This is massive news for us. We have spent nearly five years getting to this point because our dream has always been to have a CNC machine of our own."

"We know that our customer base for our manufacturing capability will now increase significantly. In the near future, I will be looking to take on my first apprentice because my passion is to ensure manufacturing of quality fasteners and precision components is brought back to the UK."

GWR Fasteners Limited is a multi-award winning company who have been recognised by entrepreneur Theo Paphitis, of TV's Dragons' Den fame.

The company is based at Weston Farm in Oswestry and you can visit its website [www.gwr-fasteners.co.uk](http://www.gwr-fasteners.co.uk)

For any manufacturing enquiries, contact Gary Robinson on (01691) 654979 or email [sales@gwr-fasteners.co.uk](mailto:sales@gwr-fasteners.co.uk)

## Business celebrates two years



Samantha Scott and Simon Harris with Scotty (left) from Scotty's Cafe in Oswestry.

IMAGINATION Creation are proud to be celebrating two very successful years in business in Oswestry.

Samantha Scott and Simon Harris have worked hard over the last two years providing creative solutions to Shropshire and North Wales, by helping businesses from start-ups to established companies develop

and grow using fantastic designs and implementation of sustainable IT infrastructures.

Imagination Creation has also been serving the local community supplying knowledge of basic IT problems by running technology clinics at Scotty's Café in Market Gate.

## Employers offered free help on changes

AN Oswestry firm of solicitors is offering free advice on constant changes to employment law.

Law firm Lanyon Bowdler is offering free employment law update seminars in the Spring at venues in Oswestry, Telford and Hereford.

"If you are in business, it can be daunting when faced with the constant changes in employment law and best HR practice," said a spokesman.

"The events will equip employers with a practical update on the latest developments affecting the workplace and employee relations, and also include guidance on dealing with sickness absences."

The seminars are aimed at owners and managers of businesses, HR managers and others who have people management responsibility within their organisation.

Sessions will be held on: Tuesday, March 25, Telford Campus of the University of Wolverhampton; Thursday, March 27, Wynnstay Hotel, Oswestry and Tuesday, April 1, The Courtyard Centre for the Arts, Hereford.

All events start at 9am and conclude at 12noon, and refreshments will be provided.

To book a place, contact Rachel Donaghey on email [rachel.donaghey@lblaw.co.uk](mailto:rachel.donaghey@lblaw.co.uk)

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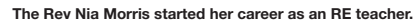
# Former RE teacher takes up new career as town's vicar

**BOSSES** at a Chirk hotel say they have had to close off their car park to through traffic because of the high number of vehicles using it as a short cut.

He said there was no provision for the £7,000 bill in the council precept plans.

In 2003, she was appointed Vicar of Bala

In her spare time she enjoys walking, listening to all kinds of music and reading all kinds of books, as well spending time in the company of good friends.





## NEWS

01691 668094

## Overton route has plenty of interest

A PARTY of 18 Oswestry Ramblers had an interesting walk on the paths and fields around Overton.

Setting off from the village car park, the group crossed stiles and muddy fields to reach Little Overton and on to Lightwood Green, before crossing the A539 to Cloy Lane and back to Overton via the Maelor Way, Argoed Lane and The Avenue after a testing five miles.

The next walk will be today (Thursday) and will be a 5.5-mile moderate walk from Welshampton to Colemere and back on field paths, tracks and canal.

Meet at Lloyd Street car park in Oswestry for a 10am departure or call (01948) 710966.

On Sunday there will be a moderate seven-mile walk from Meifod along part of the Glyndwr Way around Llyn Du. Meet at Oswestry's Central Car Park for 10am departure or call (01691) 622651.

## Tae Kwon Do class

TAE Kwon Do classes are taking place in Chirk for all ages and all ability levels. Classes are held on Mondays and Fridays from 7pm to 8pm at Chirk Parish Hall, Holyhead Road, Chirk, with more classes starting soon. Details on (01244) 371351.

# Large wildlife pond is sunk into primary school grounds

**CHILDREN at a primary school near Oswestry will be going hunting for aquatic life this year after a large pond in the school grounds was completed.**

The pond has been created over the past few months by volunteers from Gobowen Primary School working with Shropshire Wildlife Trust.

After almost 18 months of planning, digging, rain and planting, the pond will now be opened for children to take outdoor lessons and go pond-dipping.

Teacher Sally Grady said: "It's been a long project but it's there now. The Shropshire Wildlife Trust has been very supportive, and we've just got a bit more planting to do now. The children will be very excited now it's finished.

"In the summer we'll probably have the environment club use it and we'll probably have a wildlife club this year as well."

"Hopefully Shropshire Wildlife Trust will come back later in the year and do some pond-dipping with the children and help them identify the bugs they catch."

### Encourage

"The pond will also be used to encourage writing and art. We're going to get so much out of it. It's going to be a fantastic outdoor classroom."

Work on the pond started with the children being invited to come up with ideas for what they wanted to see. Parent Gary Jones then dug out the pond using his mini digger and put up a fence. The hole was lined and left to fill with rainwater.

Mrs Grady said: "We've had a lot of support from businesses for the project. The wood for the fence came from ETC Sawmills at a discounted price and Maidenhead Aquatics gave us the butyl liner at cost."

The final stage - installing a dipping platform and planting around the pond - was completed this weekend.

Sarah Gibson, from the Trust, said: "They've put in a dipping platform so the kids can come down and see what they can find living in the pond."

The pond will also be one of the hosts for the free Gigfest in July and in the autumn Robyn Hitchcock, Beck Sian, Rory Ellis and John Hegley will take to the stage.

The weekly film club, which is free to visit, will start on March 13. For tickets for all music events visit [www.hermon.org.uk](http://www.hermon.org.uk)

## Music lined up at chapel venue

A VARIED programme of music has been lined up for this year at an entertainment venue in a converted church in Oswestry.

Hermon Chapel Arts Centre will be reopened on February 22 by Shropshire-based bluegrass band, Little Red Bird to launch their latest CD.

Then on March 8, the Americana theme will be taken up by the much-travelled Gary Hall, and in a double bill on March 15, Kirk Brandon from Spear of Destiny and Dave Sharpe from the Alarm will provide the music with an unplugged acoustic set.

On March 29 Hermon will showcase some home-grown talent as Furrow and friends cultivate their experimental soundscapes.

The chapel will also be one of the hosts for the free Gigfest in July and in the autumn Robyn Hitchcock, Beck Sian, Rory Ellis and John Hegley will take to the stage.

The weekly film club, which is free to visit, will start on March 13. For tickets for all music events visit [www.hermon.org.uk](http://www.hermon.org.uk)



From left are friend of the school Rob Talbot, teachers Sally Grady, Penny Bird-Roberts and Rachel Talbot, friend of the school Sharon Roberts and David Hardwi.

## Options for leisure centre to be debated

CLWYD South AM Ken Skates is to meet with a council chief tomorrow (Friday) to discuss the planned closure of a leisure centre near the Shropshire border.

Mr Skates has said he plans to ask Wrexham Council leader Neil Rogers to ensure every option is explored to keep Plas Madoc Leisure Centre, near Ruabon, open when they meet. He said: "Many of my constituents have made their feelings known about the proposals for Madoc and I am now looking forward to sitting down and discussing the options."

"I am a regular user of the centre and I know many people in Clwyd South and further afield would be sad to see it close. Councils don't take this type of major decision lightly and authorities across Wales are being put under severe pressure because of Government's austerity measures. However, I am still hopeful we can find an alternative."

## Entrepreneur talks

OSWESTRY branch of Business and Professional Women were visited by a local entrepreneur at its January meeting.

For more information on future meetings of the group contact Alison on (01691) 657997.

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## FEATURE &amp; NEWS

01691 668094

## Homes in historic buildings agreed

THREE historic buildings dating back to the 17th and 18th centuries on a farm near Oswestry will be converted into houses after plans were agreed.

The tythe barn, farmhouse and a timber framed barn at Manor Farm, West Felton, along with two more modern barns, will be converted into three homes, an annexe to the main farmhouse and a garage house.

Both barns are Grade II\* listed, and the farm is on the likely site of the bailey of a castle at West Felton after the Norman Conquest.

Bill Klemperer, from English Heritage, said the site was historically significant as following its use as a motte and bailey castle, it was used from the late 11th century as a defended cavalry base, and then as a medieval manor house.

He said: "The whole complex - motte and baileys - is regarded as highly significant and sensitive and should be managed in an integrated way on one site."

"Due to the historical and archaeological sensitivity of the site, Shropshire Council should consider the removal of permitted development rights to ensure that inappropriate development does not occur in the future."

Planners granted permission as the work will include renovation and will preserve them for the future.

## Nature's soap opera far better than any on telly

THERE are few things less likely to tempt you out of your centrally heated house than heavy rain and icy winds.

We are after all land-based mammals and we prefer to be warm and dry. The other mammals that we share the countryside with are not so lucky, with the added luxury of gas and electricity but nonetheless they will also prefer to find shelter from the bitterest elements of winter.

Unless you're particularly enamoured by urban rats or parkland grey squirrels, mammals are a little short on the ground at the moment. The exception, although you may well be forgiven for not noticing, are les bêcheurs...French for 'diggers'. I'm talking about badgers.

Badger activity is truly at its height in February. It's the big Spring clean for badgers and any setts are likely to show a large amount of nesting material above ground. This material, usually dried leaves, grasses and straw has not been abandoned but instead is part of the badgers' recycling process. The clumps are left outside the sett entrance to dry (good luck with that one) before being re-used below.

## Delayed

But the cubs are also being born right now. This is achieved via the process of delayed implantation or embryonic diapause which enables the female sow badger to decide when to begin the formation of her embryo within.

I've mentioned this before but it's also been recently observed that this process is coupled with 'superfetaion', or the ability to conceive while pregnant. As a result, mixed-paternity litters are not uncommon. But why would this be beneficial to females? The answer, it reduces the risk of infanticide by male badgers.

Badgers are of course in the news at the moment with a decision being taken on whether to roll out wider culls on the species in an effort to rid cattle of TB. I have in the past been accused by the odd vet of being too sentimental about badgers. If said veterinarian had actually bothered to properly read my comments, he will have found it hard to find any 'oohs and

ON THE WILD SIDE  
by Ben Waddams

ahhs'. I am not sentimental about wildlife. I have a deep scientific fascination of our species and others with which we share this planet which brings me great pleasure. All I will say on the issue is that the science does not support a cull. Neither do I or any naturalist I know.

Despite the huge discrepancy between the meagre wildlife and conservation funds and the NFU's funds, it's the wildlife trusts (especially Shropshire's) that have come up with a viable vaccine and implemented it in the field.

It must be admitted that if you want to see badgers, you're going to have to don your hat and gloves and sneak off to a sett in the late evening. This may not be the most appealing thing to do at this time of the year, but if you can manage it, the soap opera you see will be far better than anything on the telly.

You're probably best joining a local 'badger-watch' group, several of which exist in Shropshire but when you approach the sett, do be careful where you put your feet.

Badgers are incredibly clean and will not defecate in their underground homes. They have special communal latrines comprising of shallow pits placed away from the setts on the edge of their territory. They will eat several hundred earthworms every night, but also feed on insects, bluebell bulbs and elderberries. Because of their keen sense of smell, badgers can also dig down for rabbit nests and grubs under the surface as well as being one of the only animals capable of killing and eating hedgehogs. A digested mixture of all the above can be found under and over your foot if you're not careful in the dark!

Ben will be in *The Square*, Shrewsbury, with his artwork on Saturday.



Mr Badger - acrylic on board - by Ben Waddams.

## Pupils get into spirit of winter Olympics

PUPILS at a school in Oswestry will be braving the cold to hold their own winter sports week to coincide with the 2014 Winter Olympics taking place in Russia.

The first Marches School Winter Sports Week started on Monday and, with woolly hats and gloves at the ready, students were spending the week competing in a range of events and winning points for their houses.

Neal Martin, director of sport at The Marches School, said: "As a PE department, we wanted to create an opportunity to celebrate the winter sports we teach on the curriculum and inspire the students to participate in another competitive house event."

The house to win the most points will be crowned Winter Sports Week Champion.

## Students speak at dinner event

THREE pupils from Oswestry School were invited to the Rotary Club of Oswestry's International Students' Dinner.

After the meal Kristi Brusgaard whose first language is Norwegian, Joel Lo Ribeiro, who is Cantonese/Portuguese, and Tatiana Pavloff from Ohio spoke about their backgrounds, why they came to the School and their hopes.

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**gets the old**  
**folk rocking**  
**with 60s hits****by Graham Breeze****HE IS** a rock musician turned clergyman.

Now Bob Pitcher has turned full circle, playing his music for senior citizens across the Oswestry area.

Sing-a-long Bob, 66, is becoming a favourite turn as an entertainer for not only the older generation but also for people with learning difficulties.

As a teenager in the mid 1960s Bob wrote for and played keyboard and blues harmonica in the band the Betterdays which recorded with Polydor.

But when he was 19 he had heart surgery.

"It was then that I had a near death experience and believe God found me. At the time being a rock musician wasn't really conducive to being a Christian and I became a music teacher," Mr Pitcher said.

**Favourites**

Eventually he trained for the ministry and became a clergyman, working in Swansea before moving to Llanidloes.

He retired two years ago and now lives at Hengoed near Oswestry.

Mr Pitcher is now enjoying taking his music to groups and retirement homes in the area.

Armed with his keyboard and harmonica and sometimes his banjo, he spends time leading singalongs, with special large print song sheets.

And it is not just the song from the 1940s and 50s that are favourites.

"I am finding more and more that the older generation enjoy the music from the 1960s and even the 1970s," he said.

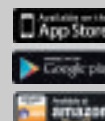
"I have a selection of different genres and if they chose it also some Christian music.

**Former rock musician and clergyman Bob Pitcher on stage.**

"At Christmas time I will do some festive numbers as well. Music has been found to be very helpful with memory and all keeping spirits up."

Anyone interested can contact Mr Pitcher on (07724) 883324.

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## GIG GUIDE

01691 668094

# Classical pianist to perform at church

## GIG GUIDE

with Edward Roberts



**FANS of classical music have a lot to celebrate this week as renowned pianist Steven Hough will be performing at Holy Trinity Church, Oswestry on Tuesday night.**

Lauded throughout the music world for his remarkable playing, Stephen is considered one of the most intriguing and versatile pianists of his generation.

He is also a regular performer at the BBC Proms and was the soloist for last year's First Night proms concert.

A seasoned veteran, Stephen regularly plays alongside the world's major orchestras and has performed in some of the most distinguished concert halls in the world.

He also has a prolific recording career having released a staggering 50 CDs, with his latest release, *Brahms: Piano Concertos Nos 1 and 2* being hailed as a masterpiece.

The programme for the concert will begin with pieces by Wagner, Schoenberg, Bruckner and Strauss, and will be followed by the works of Brahms, including *Seven Fantasies* and *Op 116*.

The concert will be brought to a close with pieces by genius pianist and



American harpist Lily Neil.

composer Chopin. The recital begins at 7.30pm with tickets costing £18, they are available from Booka bookshop or by calling the box office on 01691 681135.

Looking for something to do on Friday night? Then head over to The Lowfield Inn, Marton because Joe Seager will be performing.

If you haven't seen him before he's

an accomplished singer songwriter who covers a wide range of songs by popular artists. You can expect covers of songs by such well known artists as The Police, Oasis, Coldplay and many more.

The gig starts at 8pm and is free entry.

What better way to spend your Sunday evening than listening to some beautiful harp music courtesy of American harpist Lily Neil, who will be performing at The Cross Keys, Selattyn.

A musical prodigy, Lily gave her first professional performance at the age of ten and during her teens she played for former president Bill Clinton.

## Talent

She has since gone on to win numerous music awards in various competitions including the All Ireland harp competition and the US National Scottish Harp Championship.

No stranger to touring abroad, Lily has performed in concert halls around the world.

So far she has released two albums, *Without Words* and *The Habit of a Foreign Sky*, both of which display her incredible musical talent.

This is the chance to see a true virtuoso musician at work, so make sure you don't miss it.

It starts at 8pm with tickets costing £8 for adults and £5 for children.

Monday means its Open Mic Night at the Golden Lion, Llanymynech.

Everyone is welcome no matter what sort of style you play, whether it's folk, rock, pop or anything in between.

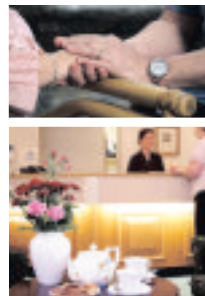
So if you fancy yourself as a bit of a singer songwriter or just want to enjoy some local music then make sure you head along. It starts at 8pm and is free entry.

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Then it's on to the amazing city of Acre. Explore the beautifully vaulted and huge Knights Halls which are in a state of almost unvalued preservation and display medieval European military architecture. A stop in Nazareth is then made to visit the great church of the annunciation before continuing on to Tiberias on the Sea of Galilee.

Crossing the Sea of Galilee by boat a visit is made to Capernaum, where Jesus lived, and nearby is Tabgha, the site of the miracle of the feeding of the 5,000. Overlooking the whole area is the Mount of Beatitudes, where Jesus gave the Sermon on the Mount.

Surrounded by haunting desert scenery is the Dead Sea. Take a dip and bob like a cork - definitely one of life's must-do experiences! Then journey to the spectacular fortress of Masada, the site of one of the ancient Roman's greatest sieges and where the desert climate has preserved the site and the eight Roman encampments surrounding the fortress.

In Jerusalem there's so much to see and experience. Visit the Mount of Olives and the world's oldest continually used cemetery for a panoramic view of the ancient city, punctuated by the beautiful Dome of the Rock where Muhammed rose to heaven.

After touring the Garden of Gethsemane, enter the warren of streets and alleyways that make up the Old City. Visit the Western Wall and walk along the Via Dolorosa before finally arriving at the Church of the Holy Sepulchre built over Golgotha where Jesus was crucified. The decoration here is astounding and contains the final five Stations of the Cross, the church is uniquely shared between the Catholic, Orthodox and Armenian churches.

A visit to the Yad Vashem is where the Holocaust memorial is located and the Shrine of the Book where the Dead Sea Scrolls are displayed.

Finally, arriving in Bethlehem, visit the Church of the Nativity and Shepherd's Fields. It is one of the oldest churches in the Holy Land still in use and marks the site where the Virgin Mary is said to have given birth to Jesus.



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**MARKETS**

01691 668094

**Welshpool livestock market**

**Monday February 3 OTMS (60)**

An entry of 60 over thirty month cattle realised an average of 117.84 ppkg, and 114.92 for the younger cows. A Limousin cow weighing 737 kg from G P Vaughan & Son, Dol-corsllwyn, made the top price of £1179.20, Mr Vaughan is therefore in receipt of the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25 for the highest priced older cow sold on the day. A British Blue cow presented by C J Davies & Son, Waengwyn weighing 700kg realised £952.00. An over 72 months Charolais bull weighing 1045kg realised £1222.65 from T H Williams & Sons, Pentre Farm. A younger Limousin bull presented by G P Vaughan & Son, Dolcorsllwyn weighing 864kg realised £1555.20. An under 72 months Charolais cow presented by Messrs Roberts & Jones, Parc, weighing 838kg realised £1223.48. A Limousin heifer under 48 months weighing 819kg realised £1400.49 from C V & E M Lewis, Buttington New Hall.

**FAT CATTLE (12)**

A smaller entry of 12 fat cattle averaged 205.42 ppkg. A British Blue heavy weight heifer weighing 517kg presented by T & B Williams, Cil-mawr, topped the market at 239ppkg. Therefore Messrs Williams receive the Briarwood Products Ltd prize of £25. A medium weight Limousin steer presented by Messrs Jones & Sons, Cwmbychan, weighing 520kg realised 214ppkg. A medium weight Limousin heifer weighing 472kg realised 230ppkg also from Messrs Jones, Cwmbychan.

**PRIME LAMBS (4664)**

An entry of 4664 prime lambs, averaged 182.88 ppkg. Super Lights (159) to 171 pp/kg from I Jones, Glanllyn.

Others to 156 pp/kg from S Beamond & Co, Dolhafren. Average of 160.09 pp/kg. Lights (383) to 211 pp/kg from DB & EFJ Gethin, Dolyrheol. Others to 187 pp/kg from D & G Andrew, Lower Brynngroes Average of 172.67 pp/kg.

Standards (1221) to 226 pp/kg from R B Jones, Llwynobin. Others to 215 pp/kg from M R M Matthews, Tanyfron. Average of 184.06 pp/kg.

Mediums (1950) to 218 pp/kg from D Langford, Gaer. Others to 210 pp/kg from J E S Corfield, Woodgate Farm. Average of 183.62 pp/kg.

Heavies (652) to 186 pp/kg from Red House Farm, Aberhafesp. Others to 184 pp/kg from R H Jones, Llanhedric. Average of 174.59 pp/kg.

Over Weights (259) to 164 pp/kg from J P Hughes & Son, Bryndulas and Red House farm, Aberhafesp. Others to 162 pp/kg also from C W Smith & Co, Uwchyllan. Average of 156.09 pp/kg.

**CULL EWES (2221)**

An improved trade returned an overall average of £51.11 for the ewes and £63.39 for the rams. The ewes topped at £109 from P Jones & Son, Dolgwenith closely followed by £104 from CL & C Watkins, Bank Farm. Cull Rams topped at £99 from A Rees & Son, Tynllynwl, and £95 from R E & E J Rowlands, Ty Cam. Weekly sale of cull sheep to follow immediately after the sale of prime lambs at approx noon.

**STORE LAMBS**

Store Lambs: 519 store lambs were forward this week, achieving an average price of £51.84 seeing some plainer lambs, despite this some pleasing prices were realised. A top price of £71.00 was reached for Texel cross mixed and tup lambs presented by V E Lewis, The Garn. Tup lambs achieved a top price of £69.00 from AK Lloyd, Ivy House Farm. Mixed and clean lambs from EG & CE Owen, Fron achieved at top price of £68.00. JE Owen and Co Gilfach

achieved the top price for wether lambs of £66.00. An increase to 220 in lamb ewes which achieved a top price of £111.00 for full mouth ewes coming from PA and HS Davies, Maesnyneudd. Yearling ewes gained a top price of £100.00 presented by DE & KD Langford, Brunant.

Next week store lambs sold from 10.30am followed by in-lamb ewes.

**COWS & CALVES**

An entry of 15 cows and calves in and calf cows met with a slightly steeper trade than the last few sales, never the less a top price of £2000 was achieved for a Lim x 1st calver with a Lim bull calf presented by I G Jones, Buarth yr Oen, Carmarthen. From JBC Gwillim, Bwlchgarth, was a Hereford x 1st calver with a Lim heifer calf which made £1800, whilst a Lim x 1st calver with a heifer calf from the same home sold for £1720. J G Thomas, Coed yr Hendre, Dutlas, sold a Lim x 1st calver with a Lim x heifer calf for £1500. GM & PE Jones & son, Maesderw, Pool Quay sold two British Blue cross in calf heifers due in March for £1400 and £1300. A breakdown of all prices achieved were as follows:

£2000 + 1 lot; £1800-£2000 1 lot; £1600-£1800 1 lot; £1400-£1600 2 lots; £1200-£1400 4 lots; £1000-£1200 4 lots; <£1000 2 lots. Forthcoming Sales. Monday February 10- Store Cattle to include Organics and Weanlings. Tuesday February 25 - February Store Cattle Fair. Tuesday March 11 - Store Cattle to include Organics and Weanlings. Tuesday March 25- March Store Cattle Fair. Tuesday April 8 - Store Cattle to include Organics and Weanlings. Monday April 14 - Easter Spring Lamb Show & Sale.

Monday February 10- Store Cattle to include Organics and Weanlings.

Tuesday February 25 - February Store Cattle Fair.

Tuesday March 11 - Store Cattle to include Organics and Weanlings.

Tuesday March 25- March Store Cattle Fair.

Tuesday April 8 - Store Cattle to include Organics and Weanlings.

Monday April 14 - Easter Spring Lamb Show & Sale.

**Tuesday January 28**

**STORE CATTLE**

Considering the drop in the

fat price in recent weeks, trade at the January fair of store cattle was solid from start to finish.

There were plenty of buyers in attendance with many of them looking for stronger types rather than turning out cattle.

Overall the bullocks averaged £1151.38 per head and 218.71ppkg whilst heifers returned an average of £980.64 per head and 210.46ppkg and the bulls averaged £715 per head and 170ppkg.

Leading the way with a bunch of 10 shapely Charolais steers at £1555 per head from B H Evans & son, Rowton Grange. Top price per head are as follows:

Steers - Charolais (x10) 676kg £1555 BH Evans & Son, Rowton Grange

Limousin (x1) 715kg £1540 DI Roberts & Son, Stingwern

Limousin (x2) 695kg £1530 DI Roberts & Son, Stingwern

Charolais (x1) 670kg £1500 RG & RE Jones, Pentre Farm

Limousin (x3) 683kg £1500 DI Roberts & Son, Stingwern

Heifers - Blonde D'Aquataine (x1) 650kg £1330 J C & JM Williams, Coedtreffe

Charolais (x1) 540kg £1200 MW Bayliss, Coedybrain

Charolais (x2) 627kg £1190 RG & RE Jones, Pentre Farm

Charolais (x1) 510kg £1190 DM & DI Jerman, Moelywigoedd

Charolais (x1) 570kg £1190 D Rowlands, Pentre Celyn

Bulls - British Blue (x1) 415kg £935 PE & BM Bailey, Pantmawr

British Blue (x1) 340kg £890 PE & BM Bailey, Pantmawr

Limousin (x1) 535kg £750 BL Hamer, Upper Brithdir

Friesian (x2) 410kg £500 BL Hamer, Upper Brithdir

Top prices per kilo are as follows:

Steers - Limousin (x4) 378kg 261.90ppkg DW Griffiths & Sons, Penybryn

Charolais (x7) 403kg 261.80ppkg TE Williams & Sons, Red House

Limousin (x2) 380kg 259.20ppkg AA Collucci, Great Cloddiau

Charolais (x1) 415kg 253.00ppkg TE Williams & Sons, Red House

Charolais (x6) 419kg 250.60ppkg TE Williams & Sons, Red House

Heifers - British Blue (x3) 331kg 323.30ppkg PE & BM Bailey, Pantmawr

Limousin (x1) 355kg 260.60ppkg AE Meddins, Rhidwfeithy

Charolais (x2) 447kg 252.80ppkg T H Williams & Sons, Pentre farm

British Blue (x4) 447kg 246.10ppkg PE & BM Bailey, Pantmawr

Blonde D'Aquataine (x1) 460kg 243.50ppkg DM & DI Jerman, Moelywigoedd

Bulls - British Blue (x1) 340kg 261.80ppkg PE & BM Bailey, Pantmawr

British Blue (x1) 415kg 225.30ppkg PE & BM Bailey, Pantmawr

Limousin (x1) 535kg 140.20ppkg BL Hamer, Upper Brithdir

Friesian (x2) 410kg 122.00ppkg BL Hamer, Upper Brithdir

**Oswestry cattle auctions**

**Wednesday January 29**

**FAT CATTLE: (74)**

Another good show of meat and handyweight cattle forward. Met another harder trade on the bulls but the clean cattle a similar trade with the smart heifers dearer on the week. Top slots hit 257p for Heifers, 217p for the Bulls and 190p for the Steers.

Highest price in the lump was £1346 for a Heifer. A bottom book of 118p for a lean friesian bull. If you have cattle to sell please contact the Auctioneer Jonathan Evans on 07971 002650 or the market office.

An overall average of 181p was achieved throughout.

Young Bulls (30) Overall Average 162.5p.

Light Bulls (2) Average 138.5p (£585/head) Selling to 147p from Bronhyddon Farms Ltd

Medium Bulls (13) Average 158.5p (£795/head) Selling to 217p from A H M Lea & Sons

Heavy Bulls (15) Average 617.5p (£1015/head) Selling to 190p from A H M Lea & Sons

Steers (17) Overall Average 171p.

Medium Steers (2) Average 183p (£980/head) Selling to 189p from J Morris & Sons

Caedwics Farm

Heavy Steers (15) Average 169.5p (£1065/head) Selling to 190p from J Morris & Sons

Caedwics Farm

Heifers (26) Overall Average 209.5p

Medium Heifers (2) Average 177.5p (£775/head) Selling to 179p from R W Richards & Son Hafod

Heavy Heifers (24) Average 211.5p (£1175/head) Selling to 257p from J H & S E Roberts & Sons Rolly Farm

Bulls a very hard trade and looks to stay that way for a while, clean cattle a decent trade on all types. Our trade is as good as anywhere else!! Thank you for your continued support.

**FAT HOGGETS: (2133)**

Superlights to 176p average 169p Lights to 187p average 177p, Standards to 205p average 180p, Mediums to 206p average 182p, Heavy's to 183p average 162.5p, Others to 165p average 149.5p. Overall average 180.5p.

**FAT EWES: (425)**

A smaller entry reflecting the drop in numbers nationally met with a similar trade with the overall average of £45 a couple of pounds up on the last few weeks. A cracking pen of ewes from M & S Jones, Rhidycroesau took the top price of £87.50. A mixed selection of 21 rams averaged £51 with a top price of £68 for a tup from R O Thomas, Rhydy-croesau.

Please note: All sheep entering the market must be tagged.

**CALVES: (60)**

Increased numbers selling to another good trade for best continentals but generally just a shade less than last week, friesians not so good. But Limousin Bulls topping at £388 from Messrs Rees Highfields

£358 & £340 from Messrs Jones Rhaydonen £292 from Messrs Lewis New House Farm. British Blue Bulls to £360 from Messrs Rees Highfields

£298 from Messrs Davies Lower Fawnog £278 from Messrs Lewis Caenymynydd. Simmental Bulls to £335 from Messrs Rees Highfields. Charolais Heifers to £338 & £288 from Messrs Rees Highfields.

British Blue Heifers to £330 & £310 from Messrs Jones Lady Hill £300 & £275 from Messrs Evans Forge Farm £290 from Messrs Jones Maesderw. Aberdeen Angus Heifers to £285 from Messrs Henshaw Little Green Farm. Simmental Heifers to £280 from Messrs Rees Highfields. Hereford Heifers to £220 from Messrs Owen Llwydiarth.

Friesian Bulls to £88 from Messrs Lloyd Roberts Pennant Farm £84 from Messrs Savage Glanfeinion.

Weanlings: British Blue Heifers to £510 10mo from Messrs Lewis Caenymynydd. Hereford Bulls 3mo to £325 & £290 from Messrs Edwards Tynymaes.

**STORE CATTLE: (104)**

A similar entry in terms of size met with another respectable trade throughout.

Top price of the day was £1400 (209p/kg) paid for a Charolais x steer aged 21 months sold by W Watkin, Brithdir. The same vendor had an excellent run of stores with other Limousin & Charolais x steers aged 21-24 months selling for £1340 (223p/kg), £1320 (220p/kg), £1250 (204p/kg) & £1180 (219p/kg).

67 steers overall averaged £991 (199p/kg) with notable prices including: £985

(219p/kg) & £800 (229p/kg) paid for 2 Charolais x steers aged 15 months sold by H E & M L Evans, Rhidycroesau.

£845 (232p/kg) paid for 4 Limousin x steers aged 14-17 months sold by V & G J Roberts, Knolton.

P L Harrison, Trengynon sold 3 lots of Limousin x steers aged 18-20 months for £1285 (218p/kg), £1200 (218p/kg) & £1100 (210p/kg) & 2 British Blue x steers aged 16 & 20 months for £1140 (217p/kg).

37 heifers forward averaged £986 (203p/kg) with notable prices including:

£710 (231p/kg) paid for 5 British Blue x heifers aged 11-15 months sold by J M Evans & Partners, Pont Robert.

£785 (224p/kg) paid for 5 Charolais x heifers aged 17-18 months sold by R E Jones & Son, Brooks.

Entries are now invited for the next store sale to be held on February 12.

**U72 & CULL COWS: (60)**

An excellent entry of 60 cattle met with another fantastic trade. Demand was very strong for all classes and types of cattle forward. Top priced Cow 155p/kg. Steers to 185p/kg and Stock Bulls to 127p/kg. Overall top price £1384.30

**Cows**

Limousin to 155p average 134.62p/kg

Friesian to 122p average 96.72p/kg

Others to 139p average 124.21p/kg

**Heifers**

Friesian to 133p average 121.32p/kg

**Steers**

Limousin to 185p average 177.13p/kg

Friesian to 152p average 144.96p/kg

Stock Bulls to 127p average 124.21p/kg

60 Cattle average 114.59p/kg

If any vendor has changed their Farm Assured details please could you notify the market office 01691 663547 so our data base can be updated many thanks.



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## Drivetime

## Jaguar Still producing goods



**Graham Breeze**  
Motoring writer

graham.breeze@  
shropshirestar.co.uk

THE latest XJ model from Jaguar sits right at the top of the luxury saloon car market.

It's hard to imagine that Jaguar could have improved on the flagship saloon but they have – with the introduction of a longer wheel based option with even more back-seat luxury than ever before.

The 2014 model is the latest in a long line of luxurious Jaguar sports saloons, incorporating enhanced rear cabin luxury features, comfort and in-car technology to create a truly elegant and contemporary luxury car.

Jaguar has long-dominated the luxury sector and with the brand enjoying remarkable success at the moment bosses have not been shy when it comes to improving the quality of the offering.

On test was the XJ Portfolio LWB which leaves showrooms at £70,975 though the model on test would have set you back a further £16,000.

The extra cash gives you racing red exterior colour, electric memory seats, the premium rear seat package, top of the range audio package, advances cruise control and 20" polished wheels.

The long-wheelbase models feature enhanced rear cabin luxury features which include 'airline' style reclining seats with massage function, increased headroom, fold-out business tables and a re-tuned rear suspension set-up to enhance rear seat ride comfort.

The entertainment system has been enhanced with a rear seat entertainment package featuring two hi-resolution touchscreens.

This makes the model even more attractive to not only the business user, wishing to stay in touch while on the road but anyone simply looking to be entertained on the move.

In the back or up-front the luxurious feel is underlined by soft grain leather, and a wide choice of veneers reminding the passenger that this is a Jaguar. Front seat enhancements include massage



It's hard to imagine that Jaguar could have improved on the flagship saloon but they have

functions for each seat with five levels of intensity, allowing occupants to personalise their massage settings.

Through the use of the front touchscreen, any one of the four electric seats can be selected and then fully controlled via the driver's seat switches.

An eight-speed automatic transmission brings out the smooth performance of the 3.0litre V6 Turbo Diesel XJ and you still get comfort in low-speed driving environments.

Detecting an enthusiastic driving style, the transmission will automatically make the gearshifts more aggressive and move the shift-up a point higher in the rev range. Steering wheel-mounted gearshift paddles give the driver higher levels of control.

There's a top speed of 155mph and 0-60mph in just six seconds with barely a whisper of noise inside the cabin while Jaguar claim fuel consumption figures of 44.8mpg on the combined cycle.

Being lighter than a lot of the competition the XJ is surprisingly agile with accurate steering and it's

## Tested

**Jaguar: XJ Portfolio LWB**  
**Model:** 3.0litre V Turbodiesel  
**Cost:** £70,975  
**Top speed:** 155mph  
**0-60mph:** 6 secs  
**CO2 emissions:** 167g/km  
**Combined fuel:** 44.8mpg

often hard to believe you're driving something over five metres long.

The competition is growing and improving all the time but there's no denying that Jaguar can still produce the goods and this model in a shining example.



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For most visitors the highlight will be a full day's game drive that brings the chance to see the sweeping savannah and muddy waterholes lined with animals, and to marvel at the incredible 150 mammal and 500 bird species that live in the Kruger National Park, including the 'big five': elephant, lion, rhino, leopard and buffalo. Rooms are reserved at the three-star superior Hippo Hollow Country Estate, located in the midst of lush forest on the banks of the Sabie River. In 1879 these two battles, just a day apart, became a defining moment for the British Empire and the specialist Zulu guide will make those desperate encounters come alive.

Those interested in history will be intrigued by the visit to Zululand, passing through Swaziland en route, to reach the haunting battlefields of Isandlwana and Rorke's Drift. In 1879 these two battles, just a day apart, became a defining moment for the British Empire and the specialist Zulu guide will make those desperate encounters come alive.

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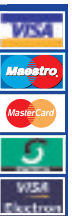
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## Special edition marks 30 years of Fiat Panda 4x4



Fiat is celebrating 30 years and 500,000 sales of its iconic all-wheel drive city car with the special edition Fiat Panda 4X4 Antarctica.

Designed to stand out from the crowd, the Antarctica is only available in white with a black roof, orange detailing, diamond-finish 15-inch alloy wheels and special badges.

Inside, the Fiat Panda 4X4 Antarctica features grey and orange upholstery with numerous additional standard features such as dark-tinted rear privacy glass, a height adjustable driver's seat and three-passenger rear seat with 60:40 split/folding backrests. As with all examples of the FIAT Panda 4X4 sold in the UK, the Antarctica edition also features air conditioning, ESC stability control, an electronic locking differential

(ELD), specially tuned suspension, mud-and-snow tyres and rugged body-work protection all as standard.

Powered either by Fiat's award-winning 85hp 0.9 TwinAir petrol engine or a 75hp 1.3-litre MultiJet II turbo diesel engine, the Fiat Panda 4X4 Antarctica offers a unique combination of exceptionally low running costs and genuine off-road capability which is unmatched by any competitor vehicle.

Just 300 examples of the Fiat Panda 4X4 Antarctica will be built for the UK market priced from £14,895 on-the-road.

Meanwhile demand for the standard Fiat Panda 4X4, recently named '2014 Mini 4X4' by the UK's off-road enthusiast publication, 4X4 Magazine, and Top Gear magazine's SUV of the Year 2012, has been so strong that a waiting list has developed. Customers who order

now could expect delivery of their new Fiat Panda 4X4 in March 2014, in time for the new '14' registration plate. In the interim, the exciting new limited edition Fiat Panda 4X4 Antarctica will be available to help satisfy this demand.

Elena Bernardelli, marketing director Fiat Group Automobiles UK, commented: "Not only has the Fiat Panda 4X4 been a huge success all over Europe for the past 30 years, it's in huge demand in the UK too. British buyers really appreciate its nimbleness and efficiency, combined with its immense all-weather capability, all wrapped up in a distinctive and unmistakably Italian package. The new Panda 4X4 Antarctica - with its extra equipment, unique styling features and strictly limited numbers - should prove even more appealing so potential buyers will need to be quick to snap one up this winter!"



## The perfect way to end landmark year

**Vauxhall celebrated 110 years of building and selling vehicles in 2013, and achieving 12 years of manufacturing dominance was the perfect way to round off its landmark year.**

Building over treble that of its nearest competitor, Vauxhall manufactured 44,657 Vivaro vans at its Luton plant. UK Vivaro sales, up 34 per cent year-on-year to 18,180, helped drive production. Vauxhall's offer of four years' zero per cent APR finance, four years' free serv-

icing, a four-year warranty and four years' AA cover, was particularly popular with customers.

"We are delighted to be the UK's leading van manufacturer for the 12th year running," said Duncan Aldred, Vauxhall's chairman and managing director.

"The Luton-built Vivaro is the lynchpin of our award-winning van range so it's a fantastic way to round off our 110th birthday celebrations."

The Luton van factory is currently ramping up to build the new Vivaro which goes on sale later this year. Faci-

lity changes have begun with important upgrades already installed in the body shop.

Significant investment has been made in the project including £95 million in specific plant changes, £112 million in vendor tooling of which £34 million is in the UK and £12 million on facilities.

Over 40 per cent of content for the new vehicle will be sourced locally. The plant and associated agencies directly employ over 1,200 people in the Luton area, and is a significant contributor to the local and wider UK economies.

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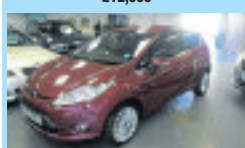
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2012 62	MG 6 1.8 TURBO HATCH	5-door, Manual, 1,800 miles, White. Like brand new	£8,999
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2011 61	NISSAN QUASQUAI 1.6 TDCi	130bhp, Tekna, Manual, 39,000 miles, Leather, Sat Van, Pan Roof, Top Spc	£13,499
2007 57	PEUGEOT 207 CC SPORT	1.6 Manual. Metallic Silver, 43,000 miles, FSH	£5,499
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2012 12	VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.7 CDTi SE	Metallic Black, 13,000 miles, sat nav, panoramic roof, FSH	£9,999
2009 59	VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2 SXi	3-door Manual, Metallic Silver, 47,000 miles	£5,299
2009 59	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 DESIGN	5-door. Metallic Silver, 63,000 miles, FSH	£5,499
2008 08	VAUXHALL MERIVA 1.6 BREEZE HATCH	5-door Manual. Metallic Blue, 31,000 miles	£5,499
2007 07	VAUXHALL ASTRA 1.8 SRI	5-door. Metallic Silver, 43,000 miles, FSH	<b>SOLD</b>
2004 04	VAUXHALL ZAFIRA ELEGANCE 1.8	7-seater, Metallic Silver, 96,000 miles, DVD player	£1,999
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2010 60	VW EOS 2.0 TDi S	6 Speed Manual. Metallic Black, 1 owner, 48,000 miles, FSH	£9,999
2006 06	VW PASSAT 2.0 TDi SPORT ESTATE	Manual. Metallic blue, 86,000 miles, FSH	£5,999
2009 59	VW GOLF 1.4 TFSi SE	5-door. Metallic Black, 57,000 miles	<b>SOLD</b>
2008 08	VW GOLF GT TDi 140bhp	2.0 TDi 5-door 6-speed Manual. Metallic Grey, full leather, privacy glass, 54,000 miles, FSH	£9,499
2008 58	VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDi SPORT 4MOTION.	Champagne Silver, 38,000 miles	£13,999
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**SPORT****British No1  
Adams set  
to take on  
allcomers**

SHROPSHIRE'S chess players are being given the chance to take on Britain's No.1 in an event in Telford in March.

Michael Adams, who is among the best players in the world, will be taking on allcomers in a simultaneous display for which there are still some boards available.

The event, hosted by Shropshire Chess Association, is on March 1 at the Wrekin Housing Trust in Telford.

Adams will be taking on 40 other players at once, playing a move in turn at each board. The day includes a lecture and demo by Adams. Full details are available on the Shropshire chess website, [www.shropshirechess.org](http://www.shropshirechess.org).

Meanwhile, the latest round of fixtures in Division Two of the Shropshire Chess League has thrown up a clutch of results which keep the title race open.

Ludlow A beat Oswestry A in a clash of the titans to put them two points clear of the rest of the field, although Oswestry have a game in hand and only five points separate seven out of the eight teams.

In the drawn Shrewsbury B v Telford B clash, Matt Best beat Simon Maydew to hand him his first defeat in 16 league games.

Teleport B lost the chance to move up after defeat against Wellington B, who were bolstered by the appearance on top board by Nazif Nazif, who is a Telford player.

It was another example of a league rule which has caused some controversy of late, allowing players to turn out for different clubs in different divisions.

Nazif was a last-minute call-up in exceptional circumstances – he was drafted in to replace Wellington captain Derrick Powell, whose wife had had a fall and had gone to hospital.

The latest grading list has been published, giving an idea of up-to-date form.

**PLACINGS****Shropshire Chess League**

DIVISION 1				
P	W	D	L	Pts
Newport A	9	6	1	2 30 13
Teleport A	9	6	0	3 30 12
Wellington A	9	5	2	2 25.5 12
Priorlee Lions A	9	6	0	3 24 12
Shrewsbury A	9	5	0	4 23 10
Condover & CS A	9	3	2	4 20 8
Telford A	9	1	1	7 15.5 3
Priorlee Lions B	9	1	0	8 10 2

DIVISION 2				
P	W	D	L	Pts
Ludlow A	9	6	1	2 28 13
Oswestry A	9	5	1	2 23.5 11
Shrewsbury B	9	4	2	3 25 10
Teleport B	9	5	0	4 24 10
Newport B	9	3	3	2 23 9
Wellington B	9	4	1	4 21.5 9
Telford B	9	2	2	2 21 8
Teleport C	9	0	0	9 9 0

DIVISION 3				
P	W	D	L	Pts
Telford C	9	6	1	2 24 13
Condover & CS B	9	5	3	1 22 13
Newport C	9	5	2	2 21 12
Shrewsbury C	9	4	1	2 21 12
Priorlee Lions C	9	4	1	3 18 9
Oswestry B	9	4	0	5 17.5 9
Telford C	9	0	1	6 8.5 9
Newport Juniors	7	0	0	8 3 0

**English Clubs Rugby****Championships**

SOUTH LANCs/CHESHIRE 2				
P	W	D	L	Pts
Manchester Medics	18	17	0	1 15 81
L'pool Collegiate	18	15	1	2 13 75
Omkirk	18	15	1	2 11 73
Bowdon	18	15	0	3 12 72
Valefontaine	18	10	0	8 9 49
Oswestry	18	9	1	8 10 48
Southport	18	11	0	7 8 47
Moore	18	1	11	8 34
Port Sunlight	18	6	1	11 8 34
Orrell	18	5	1	12 7 29
Marple	18	5	0	13 26
Dukinfield	18	4	2	12 5 25
Ramsay	18	4	0	14 2 18
Wallasey	18	0	0	18 3 22

**Lance's Hairdressing  
Darts League**

DIVISION 1				
P	W	D	L	Pts
Lion	12	10	1	1 72 24 21
Cock Inn	12	9	2	1 73 23 20
Crown	12	4	2	6 40 56 10
Monkey	12	4	0	8 41 55 8
Stables	12	3	2	7 31 65 8
Plough	12	2	1	9 31 65 5

**Lance's Hairdressing  
Dominoes League**

DIVISION 1				
P	W	D	L	Pts
Lion	12	10	2	0 64 32 22
Plough	12	7	1	55 41 15
Stables	12	4	3	5 46 50 11
Cock Inn	12	3	1	7 43 53 11
Crown	12	1	2	9 32 64 4

**Oswestry left to lament late Lymm leveller**

OSWESTRY Ladies maintained their revival in the Cheshire Womens Hockey League division two with a 2-2 home draw against Lymm – but it could have been better after being denied victory by a last-gasp leveller.

Having been well beaten 4-0 in the reverse fixture earlier in the season, Oswestry looked to be on course for revenge before having to settle for a draw with the last hit of the game.

Despite a few late injury worries, the point stretched the team's unbeaten run to nine games as they prepare for some tough opponents over the next couple of weeks before the league enters its half term break.

Aiming to get off to a positive start, Oswestry instead went 1-0 down in disappointing fashion in the opening five minutes due to a break from Lymm.

However, the hosts refused to allow their head drops, with their goalkeeper rarely troubled in the rest of the first half due to strong defence down the pitch and determined attacking.

By contrast, the Lymm keeper was pulling out a

**HOCKEY**

by John  
Bridgwater



series of saves to ensure her side led by a solitary goal at the interval.

However, Oswestry felt they could pull the game back in the second period after more than matching the opposition in their play.

The second half was marked by a deterioration in the weather, back to the wet and cold conditions that Oswestry have become used to over the past couple of weeks.

But they kept the pressure on the Lymm defence that resulted in two goals, one for Tracey Royle and a well

deserved goal for Sarah Tipuric who has been in super form of late.

Despite trailing, Lymm did not give up and their physical style of play was causing problems – but the home defence stood firm from a series of short corners.

However, a final short corner was awarded immediately before the final whistle, meaning it would be the last play of the match.

Lymm brought out a well worked move that had clearly been much practised on the training ground and managed to score an equaliser to salvage a draw.

While disappointed to be denied with the last hit of the game, the border club would reflect a draw was a good result against a team that have consistently been in the top four in the league, with their display showing a big improvement from the reverse fixture.

On Saturday, Oswestry put their revival to the test when they travel to in-form league leaders Alderley Edge II.



Ben Holland – top boy

**Ellesmere  
Titans win  
93 medals  
in Sheffield**

THE journey of excellence in their swimming success continues apace for Ellesmere College Titans.

They competed in one of the last major Level 1 Long Course Open Meets of the year organised by one of Derbyshire's elite swimming clubs 'Derwentio Excel' at Sheffield's 50m International pool.

They were competing against at least 44 other clubs who recorded at least one top six individual placings with clubs and competitors coming from as far away as Jersey, Edinburgh, Bristol, London, Loughborough and Kent to name but a few.

The Titans came away with 93 medals made up of 37 gold, 31 silver and 25 bronze placing. This came on the back of the club celebrating the news that having finished in the top 16 in the country (out of 381 club teams taking part) they have won their place (the first ever from Shropshire) to be competing in the National 'B' Arena League Final in Cardiff in April.

Ben Holland won the overall Top Boy title with 61pts and in the Top Girls competition Ellinor Southward came second, Tazmin Pugh fourth, Phoebe Townsend sixth, and Jade Hamilton seventh, with both the boys and girls sections each having 100 strong groups.

**Strength**

In the BAGCAT (British Age Group Categories) FINA pts positions Ben Holland (third) and Joshua Davies (eighth) Phoebe Townsend (third), Esme Hughes (seventh) were dominant in the 10-year-division. For the 11 year olds Jade Hamilton came third and for the 12-year-olds Hector Pardoe (fourth) Adam Metcalf (seventh) and Ellinor Southward (first) Shannon Dalligan (second) and Rosie Holland (ninth) once again showed Ellesmere's strength in depth.

For the 13-year-olds Tyler McLean (fifth) Joseph Small (sixth) and Harry Bamforth (ninth) and Hannah Wain (first) Tazmin Pugh (fifth) followed by the 14-year-olds Murrin Dalrymple (fourth) also finished in the top ten. While for the 15-year-olds Callum Nortje (first) and Hayden Griffiths (fourth) matched the girls of Olivier Gardener (first) and Chloe Golding (fourth).

At the final count of accumulated points per club for individual finishing positions the 'Titans' recorded an emphatic victory with nearly double the tally (606pts) of their nearest rivals second place and host club 'Derwentio Excel' on 329pts and City of Derby on 326pts.

With yet more times making up the 36 National Champs Qualifying times already achieved there have and also with four Commonwealth Trials and British Senior Champs times set for Glasgow in April the 'Titans' continue to impress on the National scene.

**Olympians celebrate super  
year at presentation night****ATHLETICS**

by John  
Bridgwater



**THE Oswestry Olympians Seniors recognised both individual and team successes during an evening of celebration at its annual presentation night.**

The club mark a very successful season in which 15 senior club records were broken along with several notable race wins.

Ladies Rose Bowl winner was Ali Lavender, who maintained her winning ways the following day she was first lady home in the Colwyn Bay Half Marathon in a club record time of 1 hour 18 minutes and 39 seconds.

Mens Rose Bowl Winner this year was Ian Lowe, who has another successful year of personal bests and race wins.

Other notable winners on the night were: Paul Jones Fastest 10k, Marathon and new M40 club record for 5k, 5m, 10k and Marathon; Jackie Jarvis for the fastest Marathon and new F50 Club Records for half Marathon and 20 miles; and Jimmy Kershaw who has had an outstanding season and was awarded Best Improved Triathlete.

Handing out the awards on the night was club chairman John O'Shaunessy.

Congratulations go all prize winners on the night and thanks to all those who came along to support the evening.



Julie Davies, who was second in the marathon standings, with Olympians chairman John O'Shaunessy



Jon Hancock was first in the 5km, second in the 10km and third in the cross-country



Dave Newton (right) is all smiles after being given his most improved runner award by John O'Shaunessy



Ali Tickner, who was second in the ladies cross-country, receives her award at the Olympians awards night



Jimmy Kershaw won the award for the most improved triathlete with the Oswestry Olympians



Ian 'The Cat In The Hat' Lowe celebrates a successful season with club chairman John O'Shaunessy



Claire Birch was third in the Marathon category, and gets her award from chairman John O'Shaunessy

Trophy time – Oswestry Olympians Barbara Ward won an award for coming second in the 10km



SPORT

Jefferies is back with a bang for Bluebirds

FORMER Welshpool ace Ross Jefferies proved an instant hit as Caersws staged a stunning fight-back to seal their place in the quarter-finals of the Welsh Cup.

In his first game back with the Bluebirds, Jefferies netted twice as his new team-mates overcame a 2-0 deficit to sink Cambrian and Clydach 4-3 following extra-time at the Recreation Ground.

The Bluebirds, playing only their second game in five weeks, had trailed 2-0 to a brace of penalties from Kieran Lewis, on 33 and 62 minutes, as the heavy conditions looked to be taking the toll.

But they hit back to take the tie into the extra period as new signing Jefferies headed in from a Mark Griffiths cross to pull one back, before a last-gasp penalty from Graham Evans levelled matters after he was brought down by the keeper.

Cambrian, however, regained the lead through Huw Bortell in the ninth minute of extra-time, but Caersws were not to be denied.

Iwan Lewis, who had a couple of good chances earlier on, headed he sides level before Jefferies marked a triumphant return to the club when heading his second goal of the tie from an Evans corner with four minutes remaining.

NEWTOWN must try again after their home tie with Holywell Town was postponed due to a waterlogged surface at Latham Park.

PLACINGS

Merican Regional Football League										
PREMIER DIVISION										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
O'ates At R	15	9	3	3	38	18	30			
W church Al R	18	7	7	4	33	25	28			
C Stratton	16	8	3	5	34	24	27			
Morda United	15	8	3	5	47	33	26			
Telford Juniors	14	7	3	4	34	24	24			
FC Hodnet	16	7	3	6	21	23	24			
Kelley Bk Und	16	7	3	22	29	26	24			
Maeley Spis	18	7	2	9	32	24	23			
Wellton Arms R	15	6	4	5	28	22	22			
Phes	17	1	10	28	41	19	19			
Shifnal Utd 97	13	5	3	5	23	18	18			
Western Ryn	17	5	3	9	30	47	18			
Aliscot	17	5	3	20	30	15	18			
Brighthorn T R	17	3	6	8	21	37	15			
DIVISION 1										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Oswestry Twn	17	13	3	1	69	13	42			
Bshp Castle T	16	12	0	4	59	15	36			
Childs Ercall	14	11	0	3	68	12	33			
Dawley Town	18	9	3	6	40	41	30			
Wroxeter Rvrs	11	8	3	0	47	11	27			
Rock Rovers	13	8	2	3	57	27	26			
Harwood LRI	15	8	2	5	47	20	26			
Clee Hill	14	6	5	3	36	24	23			
Oakenhate R	17	2	9	3	34	47	18			
Brown Cle	15	1	8	30	36	19	19			
Oswestry Villa	17	5	9	3	34	22	18			
Meole Bards	16	4	2	10	28	74	14			
Wrock Wd Jm	19	3	2	14	21	11	11			
Shrewby U R	18	3	1	14	19	81	10			
Shrubury Utd	19	2	1	16	26	14	7			
DIVISION 2										
	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
AFC Broseley	19	17	2	0	104	19	50			
AFC Wellington	20	14	5	1	51	41	45			
Wrock Wood	18	14	2	2	89	30	41			
Donn S&S	17	13	0	4	96	39	39			
Impact	17	12	3	2	67	28	39			
Claverley	17	10	0	7	67	31	30			
M'Don Tgns	18	9	1	8	72	42	28			
Ludlow T Cits	19	7	2	10	69	46	23			
Albrighton Jms	17	6	1	10	45	59	19			
Spalgay Britnla	20	5	13	2	29	95	17			
Highley MW	19	4	3	12	44	67	15			
Oswestry V R	17	4	2	11	20	50	14			
Sturby Utd R	16	2	14	20	97	6	6			
Densu	20	0	1	19	18	210	1			

Greenhous Shrewsbury Sunday League										
PREMIER DIVISION										
	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts				
Portesbury	8	7	1	0	20	22				
Instons United	5	6	0	0	26	15				
Wend Sunday	8	4	1	3	-1	13				
Reman All	8	3	2	3	8	11				
Compton	7	3	0	4	10	9				
Meole Bards	7	2	2	3	-12	8				
Cotton Rovers	9	2	2	5	-17	8				
Anchor Inn	9	2	1	11	-11	7				
Cruckton Rovers	9	1	3	5	-3	6				
DIVISION 1										
	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts				
S.A.H.A.	7	7	0	0	20	21				
Old Post Office	9	5	1	3	11	16				
Loppington	8	5	1	2	10	16				
Norbury	11	4	2	5	-3	14				
The Gates	8	3	2	3	-4	11				
Chesley Danwin	9	2	1	5	0	10				
Three Fishes	9	2	2	5	-14	8				
Masonic Arms	8	2	1	5	-9	7				
Peacock Corinthians	8	2	4	4	-11	7				
DIVISION 2										
	P	W	D	L	GD	Pts				
Rock Rovers Youth	8	7	0	1	16	21				
Coracle AFC	7	6	1	1	14	18				
Condover Foxes	8	6	0	2	11	18				
Rock Rovers	10	5	0	5	3	15				
Belvidere	9	3	2	4	-1	11				
Minsterley	11	3	2	6	-6	11				
Treghow	9	3	2	4	-10	11				
Kinnersley	10	3	2	5	-4	11				
Crown Coleham	6	1	1	4	-5	4				
Brookton Rovers	8	1	0	7	-13	3				

New deal for Town



FC Oswestry Town have a new sponsor in TG Electrical Services and are seen (from left): manager Nick Maguire, Chris Lloyd of TG and Matt Williams, assistant boss

Saints chief tips new-boy Jones to make big impact

FOOTBALL by John Bridgwater

FORMER Celtic youth team defender Curtis Jones signed for Welsh Premier high-fliers The New Saints in the transfer window – much to the delight of the club's director of football Craig Harrison.

A 20-year-old Manchester-born centre-back, Jones started his career with Stockport County and then spent two seasons at Parkhead, where he was a member of the Hoops under-18 side that won the Scottish FA Youth Cup in 2012.

Jones was then scouted by Bristol City's academy manager Willie McStay and was a regular member of the under-21 development squad before signing for Livingston in search of first-team football.

But he was released by the Scottish outfit last August without making a single first-team appearance due to injuries.

Jones, however, impressed in training with the Welsh Premier leaders and Harrison feels he will prove an excellent addition to the squad.

"Curtis is a young and enthusiastic lad who has had a bit of an unfortunate start to his career and he is still only 20 years old," he said. "He played at Stockport County and then went to Celtic when he was only 16 years old. I don't think he has had the opportunity to fulfil his potential and he has been a bit unlucky with injuries.

"For a young lad he has got a really good pedigree and a lot of potential. A club like Celtic doesn't pay money for you if you don't have good potential.

Potential

"He has trained with us for the last week or so and he has done more than enough in training for us to see that potential. He is a big strong lad but more importantly he is a good footballer.

"He fits in with the way we want to play, he is athletic, he is strong, he is good in the air and when he played for Celtic reserves squad he scored a lot of goals for them.

"He fits in well because he wants to play football, he is young and gives the squad more competition. We have probably been light in defenders over the last season and we have been very fortunate that we haven't had any big injuries to our defenders."

Harrison said that the new arrival is a hungry player who wants to succeed.

"He is technically good enough to play as a defensive midfielder because he is very good on the ball, especially for a big athletic lad," he added.

"He is a good build and I think just as importantly he is hungry to succeed. When you are dealing with young, hungry players you are always going to get the best out of them because they all have a point to prove and Curtis has a point to prove.

"He has started a potentially big career at a huge club and he has been a bit unlucky. He now has a chance to be involved with a full-time club again.

"He has got a battle on his hands because we have got a very good defence and some good players but it does no harm for us to bring some extra players in that area."

TNS U16s score eight but U14s let in same

TNS under-16s side proved too hot to handle as they swept aside Rhyl 8-0 with two goals apiece from Lewis Evans, George Minshall and Tom Ash while Matt Perry and Cal Graybrook also found the back of the net.

The club's under-14s, however, slipped to an 8-3 defeat against their Rhyl counterparts despite taking a three-goal lead with a brace from Sean Phelan and one from Rob Reynolds.

Saints out of danger

ST MARTINS moved out of the bottom two in the West Midlands League division one after making it back-to-back wins at the Venue Park Hall.

After seeing off Ledbury Town 2-0 the week before, the Saints followed it up with a battling 3-2 success against Hereford Lads Club to move two places above the drop zone, albeit having played more games than their basement rivals.

There was little between the sides in the first half of a rain-drenched affair, but the Saints got their noses in front on 33 minutes when Josh Sumner's corner from the right found its way to Sam Thomas.

He crashed his half-volley into the net from the edge of the box.

And five minutes later the hosts doubled the lead when Trifon Georgiev's fine pass split the defence and Karl Bailey ran on

before firing the ball into the corner of the net.

The Hereford visitors upped the ante in the second half, becoming more robust in the tackle as they looked to find a way back into the game.

And some generous refereeing decisions gave them a helping hand as a harshly-awarded free kick from Ben Fuller on 65 minutes was headed in at the far post by Danny Moon.

They then got back on terms with a penalty soon after, again a contentious decision, with Moon firing in for his second of the game.

But St Martins steadied themselves and got back in front when a pass from Thomas found Bailey 30 yards out and the striker broke into the box before supplying a neat finish to clinch a valuable win.

United stay second as hotshot hits double

TWO goals from Paul Griffiths helped Llanfair United consolidate second spot in the Spar Mid Wales League division one with a battling 3-1 win at Aberystwyth University.

With several of the high-fliers sidelined by waterlogged pitches, and close rivals Waterloo Rovers suffering a surprise defeat, it proved a good day for United.

A strong wind and constant rain made the going tough, and it was the students who led 1-0 at the break courtesy of Rian Devlin with the elements in their favour.

But Llanfair rallied in the second half, with Griffiths bagging a brace of goals courtesy of Ross Frame assists and Chris Gethin headed another to secure a battling victory.

"We did well to keep it to 1-0 at half-time playing against the wind," said boss Rhys Stephens.

"To be honest, it was just a battle, but in the end a brilliant three points for us in the conditions."

Despite the victory, second-placed Llanfair are still seven points adrift of leaders and title favourites Llantrisant Wells who were one of several sides left kicking their heels due to waterlogged pitches.

Surprising

WATERLOO ROVERS, in joint third spot, missed a chance of making ground on the leaders after suffering a surprising 3-1 loss at Bow Street.

Two goals from Dean Evans and one from Ifan Burrell put paid to in-form Rovers, who replied through Marcus Ashley.

Battling to escape the bottom of the table, DYFFRYN BANW secured a useful 2-2 draw at Aberaeron who managed to earn parity with a brace from Gareth Stevens.

WELSHPOOL, in need of points following a disappointing start to the year, saw their trip to Carno postponed by a waterlogged pitch while BERRIEW were also frustrated as their home clash with Builth Wells succumbed to the elements.

FOUR CROSSES, looking to halt a slump that has witnessed three successive five-goal defeats, were another side to have their clash at high-flying Llantrisant Wells postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

LLANSANTFFRAID VILLAGE's trip to Tywyn Brynryg was another victim of the wet weather.

KERRY remain one point adrift at the bottom of division two after losing 1-0 at second-placed Knighton Town.

GOLF RETURNS

LLANYMYNECH

February medal – Div 1: 1 Chris Williams 67-6-61, 2 Stephen Nash 73-12-61, 3 J Cooke 72-11-61, Div 2: 1 D J Evans 81-20-61, 2 Adrian Matthews 75-14-61, 3 Adrian Jones 81-19-62, Div 3: 1 Brendon Sudlow 78-24-61, 2 D E R Jones 84-24-60, 3 R O Ayers 85-24-61, Additional Medal: 1 Paul Middleton 70-15-55, 2 Glyn Jones 71-13-53, 3 Don Bradley 74-16-58.

Team of 4 Annals: I Grival, G Ashton, N Williams, P Middleton 81pts, N Roberts, T Hammett, G Roberts, D Phillips 80pts; C Forsyth, D Jones, M Baker, L Lee 80pts.

Seniors' January Medal (17 holes) Division 1: B Cadwallader 80-15-65; T Cook 81-14-67; Division 2: G Davies 88-24-64, D O Williams 93-24-64, Division 3: R Bell 96-32-64; G Roberts 99-31-68.

Seniors Winter Comp: B Gibbs 41pts; E Garbett 35pts; G Bell, 33pts.

OSWESTRY

Ladies' Stableford Qualifier Silver Division: T Pearce 34pts; A Colquhoun 32pts; M Lynch-Jones 31pts. Bronze Division: N Orells 33pts; E Hopton 30pts (o/b); S Baxter 30pts. Upper Bronze Division: T Hyde 33pts; S Watanabe 30pts; G Glines-Jones 28pts.

Draw for Partners AM-AM Stableford 18 hole: P Jones 81pts; S Baxter 75pts; T Pearce, D Hall, R Owen 74pts; T Hyde, K Jones, J Thornell 71pts; M Allford, G Green, L J Jones 68pts. Division 3: R Mackenzie, A Garbett 70pts.

AM-AM Stableford 9 hole: A Colquhoun 34pts; S Watanabe 33pts; S Wason, A Brock, J Mitchell 30pts; J Taylor, M Nixon, R Roberts 30pts.



New kid on the block – New Saints new signing Curtis Jones after sealing his switch from Scottish giants Celtic



Same colours, different club – TNS's ex-Celtic man new-boy Curtis Jones tries a different green and white shirt

Rain delay halt for Guilsfield's unbeaten run

IT PROVED another frustrating weekend for both Guilsfield and Llanrhaeadr who yet again were without any Cymru Alliance action due to the wet weather.

Guilsfield, looking to stretch their unbeaten run to nine games, saw their clash at Flint Town United postponed due to a waterlogged pitch while lowly Llanrhaeadr's home meeting with Llandudno suffered a similar fate.

The villagers, however, did get in some action a few days before as they recorded a 3-0 win over Cefn Druids reserves in a friendly at Park Hall.

It's now back to the Central Wales Cup on Saturday, with Guilsfield heading to Machynlleth after two postponements at home while Llanrhaeadr entertain Spar Mid Wales League side Montgomery.

The Roche North Shropshire Sunday League suffered a total washout with all three games called off due to waterlogged pitches.

This Sunday's fixtures see Tavern FC host Malpas, Oak Inn visit Dudleston Heath and Keys entertain Lodge Inn.

High-flying Fc Oswestry Town, six points clear at the top of the Merican Regional League division one, saw their first division cup clash at Clee Hill postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

It was the same story elsewhere as weeks of heavy rain wiped out the majority of games.



# SPORT

**Football**  
Celtic young ace  
in move to TNS  
**Page 63**



**Athletics**  
Olympians awards  
night in the picture  
**Page 62**



**OSWESTRY** Sports Desk 01952 241473

www.oswestrychronicle.com

## Morda not gloomy as weather is taking toll

MORDA United boss Craig Rogers feels there's no cause for concern despite his side having not played for two months in the Meridian Regional League premier division.

The wet weather was again the winner last weekend as the club's home premier division cup tie against AFC Bridgnorth Reserves was postponed due to a waterlogged pitch.

It means the Weston Road side have not had a competitive match since drawing 1-1 at Wellington Amateurs back on December 7.

Morda still have 11 games to play, while they are also involved in two cup competitions, but Rogers feels there is plenty of time to play the fixtures.

"It's been tough not to have had a game for so long, but no-one has been playing, so we've not fallen behind in our fixtures," he said.

"We've got 11 league games left, and we're also in two cups, but I don't think there is a problem at the moment as there are still 15 Saturdays remaining."

Morda have two new signings in their ranks, striker Chris Bishop and midfielder Jack Hughes, both joining from Weston Rhyn.

But they will be without top scorer Paul Hughes for the rest of the season after the forward twisted his knee back in October.

With more rain this week, Morda could again face further frustration on Saturday when they visit Cleo Hill United in the Shropshire FA Challenge Cup.

## Davies nets double for hockey men

TWO second half goals from Sam Davies ensured Oswestry returned to winning ways in the North Wales League with a 2-1 home success over Rhyl.

Having to concede the previous week's clash at Colwyn Bay due to lack of numbers, the border side again had their selection problems with the absence of a goalkeeper meaning Matt Smart had to take over in goal at Oswestry School.

A goal down at half time, a brace from Davies earned a deserved win. Oswestry have no game this weekend.

Meanwhile, Oswestry Ladies were denied by a last-gasp strike in their 2-2 draw with Llym in the Cheshire Womens League division two. Full report see page 62.

## TNS given tough Welsh Cup tester

IF The New Saints are to lift the Welsh Cup they will have to do it the hard way after being paired with another Welsh Premier side should they make the quarter-finals.

Despite five of the scheduled eight ties being postponed due to waterlogged pitches, including TNS's clash at Carmarthen Town, the draw for the quarter-finals went ahead.

And should they overcome Carmarthen, Craig Harrison's men know they will face either Airbus UK or Bangor City at home in the quarter-finals early next month.

**Full draw:** Carmarthen Town/The New Saints v Airbus UK/Bangor City, Aberystwyth Town v Caerswys, Aberdare Town v Bala Town/Cefn Druids, Newtown/Holywell Town v Monmouth Town/Portmadog. Ties Saturday, March 1.

## Frustrated Saints happy to take break

HEAD coach Carl Darlington admits the recent lull in action due to the wet weather has been a mixed blessing for The New Saints.

Heavy rain has kept the Welsh Premier's defending champions on the sidelines since drawing 1-1 with title rivals Airbus UK back on January 18.

With no scheduled action this weekend, the Saints will be desperate return to duty next Tuesday when they head to Carmarthen Town in their delayed Welsh Cup fourth round tie.

However, with Carmarthen's waterlogged Richmond Park having been unfit since the turn of the year, there is no guarantee the match will go ahead, even if the weather improves.

"If it's not played next Tuesday, then the fixture will be reversed to our ground the following Saturday," said Darlington.

"It's frustrating for everybody, but there's not a lot you can do with the weather."

"The players have been building up for games only for them not to go ahead, which is difficult, but we just have to keep motivated and remain up for the challenge."

"While we want to be playing, the break has done us some good as the players have been in training since June 1, so it has given us some time off and a chance to recover, so there is a positive side of it."

The Saints have been busy off the field with a couple of new signings, Ryan

Edwards and Curtis Jones, while a third new arrival could be on the way to further boost their squad.

Despite not having kicked a ball in earnest for almost three weeks, TNS have seen their lead at the top of the Welsh Premier increased to six points after closest rivals Airbus UK were deducted one point for fielding an ineligible player.

The second half of the league season was due to start this week, but has been put back as several sides have been forced to rearrange their Welsh Cup ties.

Newtown should have been TNS' opponents at Park Hall in the league on Friday night, but the Robins have rescheduled their Welsh Cup fourth round tie with Holywell Town the following day.

## Llanfair set sights on spot in last eight

THE Central Wales Cup is the focus of several sides in the region who'll be looking to maintain their push for some silverware this season.

Llanfair United host Llandysul - conquerors of Welshpool Town in the previous round - and boss Rhys Stephens believe it is a competition his side can win.

Victory in the fourth round tie, would take them into the last eight, and the hosts will be out to maintain their fine cup form that saw them reach the third round of the Welsh Cup for the first time earlier this season.

Their form in the Spar Mid Wales League has also been impressive, with Llanfair going clear in second with last week's 3-1 win at rainswept Aberystwyth University.

"Last week was a brilliant win in the conditions, it was a battle, but the main thing was the result," said Stephens.

"We've now got the Central Wales Cup and we'll be having a good go at it this season."

Llanfair's success was recognised at Sport Powys' Montgomeryshire awards night, the club finishing runners-up in the senior sports team of the year.

First place went to the Llanfyllin Senior A squash team, who won division one of the Shropshire Squash League.

GUILDFIELD are also involved in the Central Wales Cup, but competition rules stipulate they must now travel to third round opponents Machynlleth after two postponements at home.

LLANRHAEDR take a break from their relegation scrap in the Cymru Alliance to entertain MONTGOMERY in another delayed third round tie.

Weather permitting, BERRIEW welcome local rivals Dyffryn Banw in a fourth round tie.

In the Spar Mid Wales League, WATERLOO ROVERS missed a late penalty as they were undone 3-1 at Bow Street, whose Dean Evans scored twice, including a spot kick - with all the goals coming in the first half.

# CARDIFF TO SET UP COACHING CENTRE

**ASPIRING** local footballers will be handed a unique coaching chance following the announcement that a Cardiff City advanced development centre will be established in Oswestry.

The "Dragon Advanced Development Centre" is being set up by the Llansantffraid Village Academy, which will cease to operate under its current name and will leave the Football Association of Wales academy system.

The not-for-profit, self-sustained advanced development centres aim to provide local talented players with an exceptionally high level of coaching in all aspects of the game.

The holistic approach of player development is run in an environment that encourages player centred coaching, intelligent decision making and unorthodox creativity, thus mirroring the philosophy and working practices of Cardiff City's Academy.

### Progress

"This is a new innovation for this area and we believe the time is right to progress into a modern style coaching system based on players' development rather than results," said Llansantffraid Village Academy director Mike Digwood, who will head-up the new coaching centre along with Andy Poole and their team of coaches.

"We will be holding trials for next season and the dates will be finalised and advertised shortly. We will offer youngsters in the area from under-eight to under-16 a unique opportunity to train and play in a coaching centre that is associated

**by John Bridgwater**

with Cardiff City, an English Premier League club that will offer their professional support to both our players and coaches."

The coaching centre will operate from Oswestry School and use the new floodlit artificial pitch at Upper Brook Street along with the grass pitches for training sessions and matches.

"We are grateful to them for the use of their facilities and the support they have given us from the beginning," Digwood added.

"We will still retain an amicable link with Llansantffraid Village FC and would like to thank them for all their help and support over the last two seasons."

"Our games programme will be based on high quality friendlies against other development centres and the like with the aim of player development rather than emphasis on results - there will be no league structure which will take pressure away from players and coaches."



Linking up - Kurt Doyle, the head of advanced development centres Cardiff City, (left) and Paul McCarthy, head of academy recruitment Cardiff City (right), with Mike Digwood, Mike Davies and Andy Poole of Dragon ADC.

The Dragon Advanced Coaching Centre will have use of the Cardiff City badge and a specific residential scout who will recommend suitable players to the Bluebirds.

Players will undergo 36

weeks of training with regular six-weekly player assessments.

All coaches will be fully qualified, CRB checked and hold First Aid qualifications while proper Futsal sessions will be held indoors and with

specific Futsal coaching.

Players will also be allowed to play for their local teams, but must give Dragon ADC games priority unless special circumstances are involved.

The Centre will be totally

committed to the development of its players and coaches and will have a specific goalkeeper coach and a dedicated, fully qualified physiotherapist/fitness coach to treat and advise players.



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